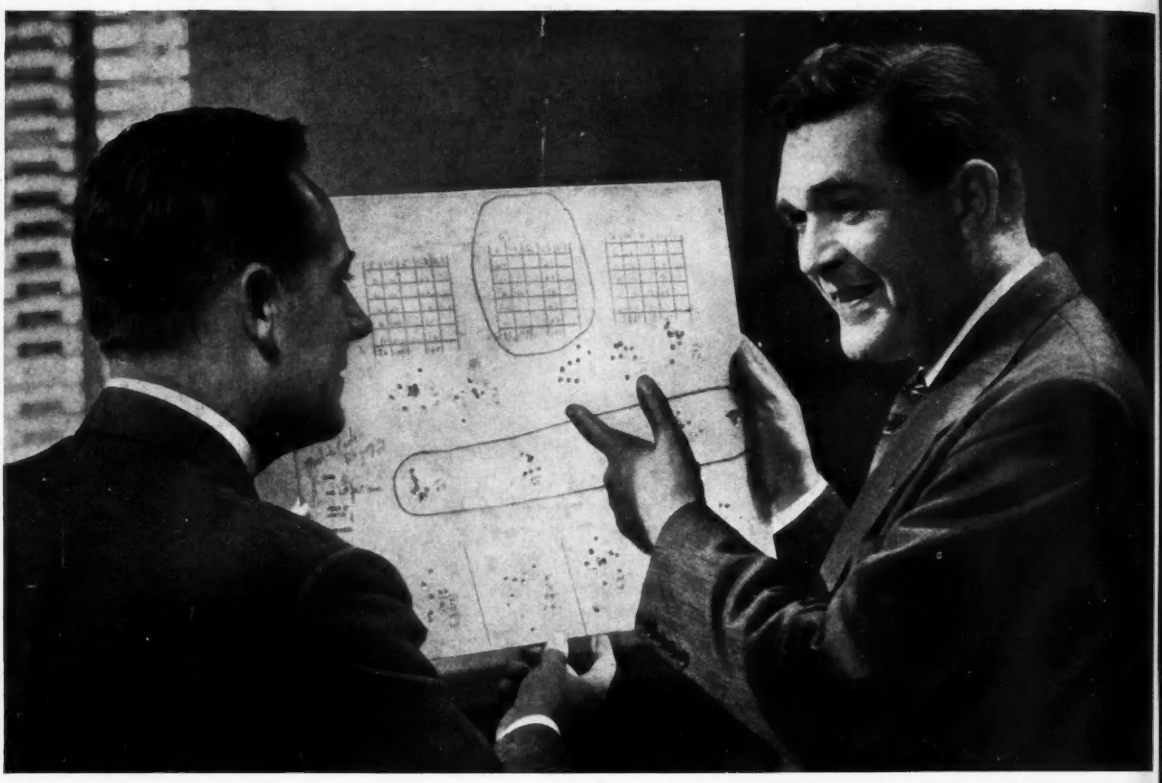
NAVY MARINE CORPS RIFLE MATCH

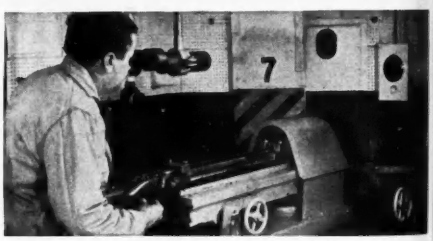


How to make a possible probable

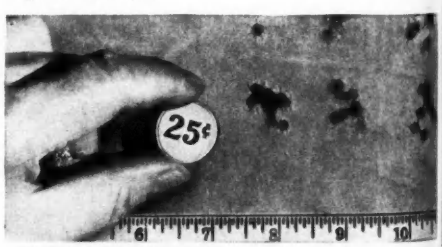
Given a straight-shooting gun, a steady hold and cautious trigger squeeze, there's just one way to make a possible probable: *ammunition as perfect as possible.*

You get such ammunition in Peters "Police Match" and Peters "Dewar Match" 22's. For these special match cartridges are not only made as *perfect* as modern ammunition production "know-how" permits . . . the cartridges within each brand are made *alike,* down to an almost unbelievably fine degree. That's why, when Peters experts test-fire these superb cartridges from guns in machine-rest, possibles are *probable*—time after time.

Every match you shoot, load up with Peters "Police Match" or Peters "Dewar Match" 22's . . . and, for all-round range work, Peters "Target" 22's. Shoot them, then study your scores and you'll agree: *Peters Packs the Possibles!*



EVERY LOT IS PEDIGREED! Peters ballistics experts constantly test Peters Match 22's for perfect construction, then test-fire samples from every lot produced. Thus they foretell high scores for you.



POSSIBLES PREDICTED! Sameness in materials, plus sameness in construction, means sameness in shooting. That's why many a group, made on Peters ballistic ranges at 100 yards from machine-rest rifles, can be covered by a 25¢ piece!

PETERS
PACKS THE POSSIBLES

PETERS CARTRIDGE DIVISION—*Remington Arms Company, Inc., Bridgeport 2, Conn.—"Dewar Match" and "Target" are Reg. U. S. Pat. Off.—"Police Match" is a trademark of Peters Cartridge Division.*

DU PONT

POWer-PAC

FRANK PACHMAYR

E. BADEN POWELL

SHOT CONTROL

PERFECT PATTERNS PACKED WITH POWER

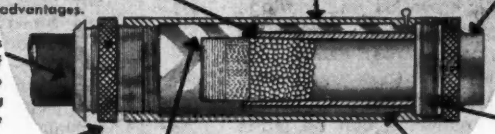
LESS RECOIL . . LESS MUZZLE BLAST . . Inverted tube, forward shoulder and more efficient gas port design cuts recoil to a new low and eliminates the sharp "crack" so disturbing to most shooters. You don't have to plug your ears when you shoot a POWer-PAC. Examine all the evidence below, then order your POWer-PAC installed now!

ONLY POWer-PAC HAS THESE EXCLUSIVE FEATURES

INVERTED TUBE DESIGN. Keeps gas out of shot column because shot is in tube before wad is out of barrel . . . less deformed shot because shot can't spread out in attachment body . . . plus many other advantages.

NON-GLARE MATTED SIGHTING PLANE. Fine checkered matted surface entire length of body prevents glare and matches ventilated ribs.

3 TUBES FOR EVERY SHOOTING REQUIREMENT. Each tube bored to precision standards for specified use . . . over 25 tube designs tested to arrive at these three:
SHORT RANGE for 30 in. circle at 15 yds. for skeet and close upland shooting.
MEDIUM RANGE for 30 in. circle at 30 yds. for deliberate skeet shot, traps and general upland shooting.
LONG RANGE gives 30 in. circle at 40 yds. yet holds pattern out to 60-80 yds. for wildfowl.



EASY INSTALLATION. Less lathe work . . . no facing-off body to make sight line up on top-center. Adapter ring designed to keep sight plane and shot plane parallel.

TUBES NEVER FREEZE. Machined shoulder protects threads from dirt . . . the tubes never freeze in place.

CANNOT SHOOT LOOSE. Adapter ring permits adjustment of sight on top-center of barrel . . . tightening and locking ring against body prevents shooting loose.

DESIGN PREVENTS MUZZLE JUMP. Gases go up . . . holding muzzle down . . . succeeding shots off faster and more accurately.

TUBES SAME LENGTH . . . GUN BALANCE NEVER CHANGES. Shooters stay "in the groove" with their swing because tube length and weight of muzzle remain constant. Better appearing, too.

POWer-PAC comes in "One Package." No extras to buy — Includes 3 Tubes, Belt Carrying Case and Wrench.

$18.50

Factory Installation . . . $3.50

KILLING POWER OF A GAUGE LARGER . . . COMFORT OF A GAUGE SMALLER . . . For instance, our ballistic tests show that if you shoot a 12 gauge gun with a POWer-PAC, you have approximately the effective killing power and range of a 10 gauge, and yet have the shooting comfort of a 16.

FEWER SHELLS FOR MORE GAME. The amazing efficiency of the POWer-PAC will actually raise your percentage of kills per box of shells fired. When you get higher velocity at longer range, more pellets on the target at any range, you are going to make more clean kills . . . with fewer unbagged wounded game birds.

HIGHER SCORES AT SKEET AND TRAPS. Whether expert or novice, you will break more birds at Skeet or Trap with a POWer-PAC. Your shot column is more uniform and contains more pellets when it reaches the target area.

REPLACEMENT GUARANTEE. Use the POWer-PAC, within 90 days of purchase, if you do not feel that your shooting has improved, send us your gun and we will replace the POWer-PAC with any device of your choosing at absolutely no cost for the replacement device or the labor of installation.

POWer-PACS are available at leading Sporting Goods Dealers, Gunsmiths or Direct from Factory . . .

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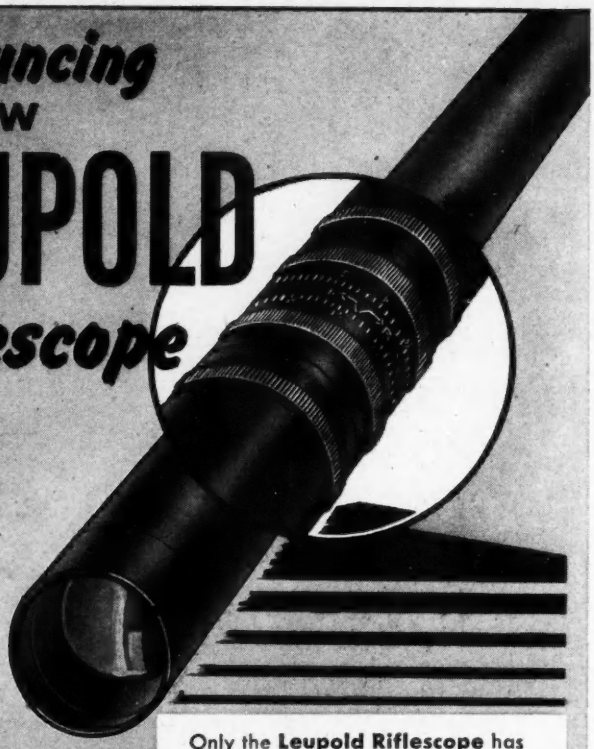

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Only the **Leupold Riflescope** has micromatic elevation and windage adjustments with positive individual locking rings. No tools needed. No protruding knobs to catch on brush or scabbard. Adjustments for windage and elevation can be made instantly and independently.

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- Weight: 6 ¼ ounces.
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- **Finish:** Sand-blasted, non-glaring, and Anodic treated.
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The Leupold 8-power attachment for the Leupold Riflescope. Ideal for target shooting or varmint hunting. **Price: $24.50**

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RIFLEMAN WORDS • • • •

Each month this "lexicon for shooters" is devoted to a few words peculiar to the shooting game which may be puzzling to the newcomer. All words defined are used in a current article.

BARREL LUG—A projection permanently secured to the barrel of a firearm that is used to fasten the magazine, forearm, or movable parts to the barrel. For example, barrel lugs hold the sliding forearm of a pump gun to the arm; on a military rifle the bayonet is fastened to a barrel lug.

BATTLE SIGHT—The fixed, open rear and post front sight usually found on military rifles. For close snapshooting in battle, it is preferable to a micrometer adjustable sight which can be dislodged easily.

HORIZONTAL DISPERSION—The distance between the extreme right and left holes in a group of bullet holes in a target. Sometimes called horizontal spread.

LOCKING LUGS—Projections, usually at the head or front end of a bolt, which engage in recesses when turned into the locked position, preventing rearward movement of the bolt when the weapon is fired.

MAGAZINE—The container for extra cartridges in a repeating firearm. It usually incorporates a spring and follower which force successive rounds in position for feeding into the chamber of the piece.

MUZZLE-CROWNING BALL—A ball, usually brass, mounted on a driving shaft and covered with abrasive that is used to finish the muzzle of a gun.

PATTERN—Distribution of the shot from a shotgun on a target perpendicular to the plane of fire, showing the chance groupings or orderly spread of the individual shot pellets.

PROOFMARK—Signature marks placed upon the barrel, and sometimes the action, of firearms to indicate that they have been fired with established, higher than normal, charges, and proved to withstand the pressures generated by them. In this country, proof tests are made by manufacturers. In Europe proof houses, existing by authority of the governments, test and prove the arms.

REFORMED CASE—A cartridge case of one caliber which has been reshaped by cutting the length, or resizing the neck, or firing in a chamber of slightly different shape. Most wildcat cartridges use reformed cases.

SINGLE-STAGE PULL—A trigger which has no free movement or takeup before the sear is engaged and the rifle fired.

SPOTTING IN—The process of intimately fitting a rifle barrel and action into a gunstock, to give good accuracy, by using prussian blue, lampblack and oil, or other stains to locate the high spots in the stock. The barrel and action is thinly spread with the stain, then pressed into the inletted stock. The high spots in the stock will pick up the stain and can be seen easily and removed to give a better fit.

TARGET BUTT—On a smallbore rifle range, the target frame and backstop for one firing point. On a big-bore range, the parapet, pit, target frame, and backstop.

TWO-STAGE PULL—An arrangement of the trigger on a rifle which allows a small amount of light pull or free movement before the sear is engaged and the rifle fired.

MEDALIST

OK'd by Experts

designed by Gene Reising

A real veteran . . . whose baptism of fire was the critical test of the most expert marksmen. There's no tougher assignment.

But this precision piece, H&R's Medalist, is the result of test-firing by the country's finest marksmen, with the addition of their suggestions to the superior features of exclusive Gene Reising patents.

You can be sure that Medalist has no peer . . . in competition or for sheer shooting pleasure when you choose a .22. It's accurate, handles beautifully, with all the features that mark the gunsmith's expert craftsmanship. 5-shot clip magazine; 26" barrel; 44" overall; 10½ lb. weight. Model 451. Price $59.00.

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- Full Weight Barrel and expertly hand shaped stock provides 10½ lb. perfectly balanced rifle.
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- No Bullet "Jump"—from cartridge case to rifling.
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MODEL 450 WITHOUT SIGHTING EQUIPMENT

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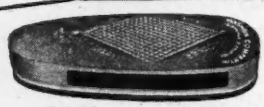

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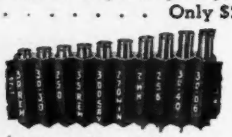
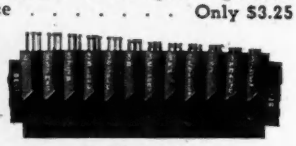


"Sure Grip" Shell Pack—Made of pliable, durable rubber. Fits any ordinary belt up to 2" wide. Holds any 10 shells from 25 to 35 caliber, securely, but instantly available. Prevents loss of ammunition. Jet black, walnut brown, or tile red colors . . . . **Only $2.25 Ea.**

The Original "White Line" Recoil Absorber—For shotguns and rifles. Used and recommended by expert shooters everywhere. Skeet, Speed or Regular styles in jet black, walnut brown or tile red colors. None equal regardless of price . . . . . **Only $3.25 Ea.**



"Varminter" Shell Pack—For varmint hunters. Made of tough, flexible rubber. Fits any belt up to 2" wide. Holds any 12 shells from 22 to 38 caliber, securely, but instantly available. Prevents loss of ammunition. Same colors as "Sure Grip" Shell Pack. Can be used for pistol cartridges . . . . . **Only $2.25 Ea.**

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These are only a few of scores of Mershon necessities for hunters, target shooters and outdoorsmen. All are absolutely guaranteed to give complete satisfaction or money back. *Ask for and look for the "White Line."* It is your assurance of utmost in quality, value and satisfactory service. See your dealer, gunsmith, or order direct.

WRITE FOR CATALOG No. 36

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Ricochets . . .

TECHNICALITIES

Pasadena, California

Editor:

I heartily agree with correspondent Alton R. Stier (Ricochets, July) on technicalities. Keep up the good work. If the newcomers to our sport fail to understand technical articles fully, they cannot help absorbing some good shooting background even from casual perusal of them. The shooting enthusiast is a better-informed man than most magazine editors give him credit for being. At worst, he has a thirst for real knowledge concerning his . . . avocation. Don't talk or write "down."

MAHLON FRANK

• RIFLEMAN *editors know better than to consider their 'average' reader uninformed. The flood of correspondence which calls attention to even minor or obscure errors took care of that feeling long ago! On technical articles,* RIFLEMAN *correspondents are almost 100 percent agreed: keep them complete, factual, technical, but* understandable. *As far as the editors are concerned, orders are orders. We'll print 'em that way.—Ed.*

WALTER RODGERS

White Salmon, Washington

Editor:

. . . want to thank you for a grand editorial, "State of Mind," and for another superb Walter Rodgers story. Any change that nets us a Rodgers yarn is a change for the better. Give us lots of them.

EDWARD SISSON

Lima, Ohio

Editor:

Really . . . such stories as "Canyon Duet" by Walter Rodgers do not belong in the RIFLEMAN.

HARRY R. RAMGE

Elida, New Mexico.

Editor:

Howdy! Will you please try to find room for this letter among the Ricochets that are whining through the front pages of every issue of the RIFLEMAN.

No, I ain't got a crow to pick with anybody. Quite the reverse. I just want to dump the burden of my grateful acknowledgements to the good members . . . onto the broad shoulders of the circulation department. Thank you, fellows. I've enjoyed my correspondence with you immensely, and to those for whom I have not had the time for personal acknowledgements or acquaintance, please know by this, that I am grateful to you all. Be with you again soon, I hope.

WALTER RODGERS

LEGITIMATE BEEF

Prineville, Oregon

Editor:

I have what I believe to be a legitimate beef in regard to the sale of sporting rifles to the shooter of limited means. There are many of us who would buy a new Model 70 Winchester or a 721 Remington, if and when they are available. But . . .

When a dealer gets one of these guns the buyer never gets to see it in his show case until he has a scope, sling, etc., on it and the price is away out of reach. This practice not fair to the little fellow who would buy rifle this year and have a scope put on at later date as his pocketbook would allo Also, most of us have some idea of wh make and power scope we would like to p on a rifle, if any. But no, the way this rack is run (you have to) buy the gun and sto as set up or some other man will. Th method of getting rid of a lot of scopes an slings is a . . . racket.

NELSON E. MOELLER

COLT RARITY

Old Deerfield, Mass.

Editor:

I am trying to compile some information on Colt double rifles. Could you print a re quest for information, asking for a descrip tion of any such rifles in the collections o NRA members. We might learn some inte esting facts as to the number that were made the caliber, and other specifications. I believe these Colt double rifles are the rarest of th Colt rarities, not excepting the Walker an Paterson models, scores of which have be found.

F. P. L. MILLS

IT TAKES ALL KINDS . . .

Editor:

Seattle, Washington

There are very few articles published in the RIFLEMAN from which I don't get som useful information.

CHARLES A. PRIEBE

Salem, Oregon

Editor:

Of the number of copies of the RIFLEMA I received, not more than six short article were read. The rest do not appeal to me. believe we should have the NRA, and I'd b willing to pay for the membership alone i it were possible and not receive a worthle magazine.

FRANK E. FINNEY

"DCM TREASURE"

Salem, Virginia

Editor:

In part one of my article on remodelin the Springfield rifle (July, page 21) the to list which should have accompanied the ite was omitted. It is of interest mainly to sho the amateur how few tools are needed to the job. Here it is:

3 screwdrivers, large, medium, small
1 3/32nd-inch drift or pin punch
1 hammer
1 hacksaw, 24 teeth to inch
1 8-inch horseshoe rasp
1 very small knife-edge file
1 ¼ by 4-inch triangular India oil stone
1 ¼ by 4-inch triangular hard Arkansas stone
1 file card

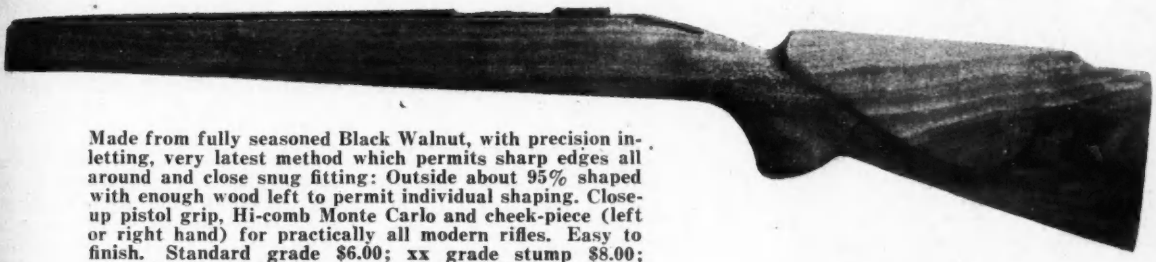
And incidentally, that illustration on page 22 shows top and side views of the "file lower." The top view is all right, but the side view should have been labelled "edge tractor."

T. B. GRESHAM

• *For part two of Tom Gresham's Springfield series, see page 28. Author Gresham, by the way, is a hard-working professional gunsmith and toolmaker, and as much as he'd like to oblige, does not have the free time to answer letters.—Ed.*

Flaig-Ace

"PENNSYLVANIA BLACK WALNUT INLETTED STOCKS"



Made from fully seasoned Black Walnut, with precision inletting, very latest method which permits sharp edges all around and close snug fitting: Outside about 95% shaped with enough wood left to permit individual shaping. Close-up pistol grip, Hi-comb Monte Carlo and cheek-piece (left or right hand) for practically all modern rifles. Easy to finish. Standard grade $6.00; xx grade stump $8.00; xxx grade burl $17.50; xxxx rare burls $25.00 to $35.00.

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NEW F-N actions with 30-06, 257, 270 Chrome Moly 24″ sporter barrel fitted, white not blued... $70.00
New F-N actions with 22″ *featherweight* chrome moly barrel fitted .30-06 cal. only, white... 66.00
F-N actions with 220 Swift barrel sporter or med. heavy, box shortened, white... 75.00
All parts for F-N actions in stock.
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10—87 Stevens auto 22 cal... 27.95
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16 12 ga., new, ea... 22.50
75 Win Target 22 cal, new... 54.50
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Colt 45 ammo late per 100... 4.00
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M.I. carbine ammo, 100... 6.00
22 R.F. $2.00 100; 32 R.F Long 100... 2.20
38-55 S.P. ammo Box $2.40; 100... 12.00
32.40 S.P. ammo. Box $2.20; 100... 11.00
25-20 S.P. $2.70 box; 38-40 S.P. $3.80 box 12 ga. 00 Buck $1.00 box; Case... 18.00
DuPont 3031, 4227, 4350, 4064, 4198 lb... 1.80
DuPont #6 4759, can... 1.10
Speer bullets 22 cal, 45, 50, 55... 2.80
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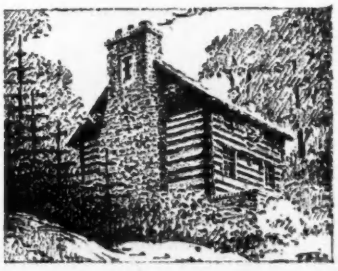

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Incidentally . . .

Sooner or later, in any column devoted to the business of getting a magazine on the presses, there has to be an installment on editor-printer relations—a sort of *apologia* in which the editor attempts to clear himself of all blame for sins perpetrated by the #!!?@/?¢-ed printer. Obviously, the harassed printer is forced to print any such libellous statement the editor cares to dictate without so much as a whimper of protest. Well, here goes:

If you'll dig out the old tea kettle and carefully steam the address sticker off of this copy, you'll see what we mean about printers. It's that hole in the front cover. Awful, isn't it? And after we'd worked our friends to the bone to get the best cover we could lay hands on, and watched it every step of the way through the engraver's plant, and then stood back and admired the finished product (after we'd tacked it up on the wall to see it in a really good light), and finally congratulated ourselves on how pretty it looked. . . . Well, who understands printers?

☆ ☆ ☆

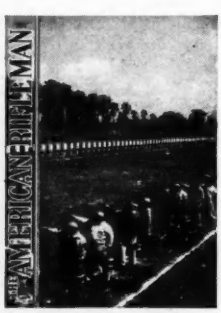
As a matter of fact, it had to be done. But you can still blame it on the printer. Seems he was going all-out on the covers. A matter of pride, probably. Every month he'd call and swear that *this* one was the best yet . . . 'way better than last month's. Before long he had us believing it. Finally, after about a year of that kind of improvement, he had it looking better than those nice engraver's proofs we get just so we'll know what a fine engraver we have. (That's another chapter in editor relations.) Anyway, we finally found out what the secret was. Varnish! Good old printer's varnish. Every month our printer would squeeze a little more of the stuff into his inks, and that slick, shiny look was doing wonders for cover quality. But then the whole thing back-fired. The covers got so doggone slick that the address la wouldn't stick any more.

That was when we had to agree to the hole in our cover plates. If we did said our printer, we could either go back those old dull covers we had been worry along with, or run the risk of having a thousand copies of the RIFLEMAN wander around in the US mails without an addr to go to.

☆ ☆ ☆

To tell the truth, we might not h agreed to it then if the RIFLEMAN circulat manager hadn't called our printer in to what was happening to us because th labels wouldn't stay put. He had dum four big mailbags full of magazines that lost their stickers out on the floor. A naturally, there were almost that many ters on his desk asking about missing co or reporting receipt of the mag without la —because the local carrier happened to ha the subscribers on his route. We wande in to see the fun. Down on his hands knees in the middle of the floor, check those undressed magazines one at a ti was the vice president of our printing fi The *first* vice president, as a matter of fa Well, you can go just so far. Asking the fi VP of a respectable printing firm to cr all over the floor beca we wanted shiny co (with labels) was go too far. We broke do and let him cut that h in our cover plates so address labels wo have a firm place to la So our covers are s nice and shiny, the way we want them, a vice-president McKenney can stay off office floor as far as we're concerned.

More importantly, there's mighty li chance of magazines going astray that w in the future. When the labels hit that h patch on the bottom of the cover, they st So if your copy doesn't show up one of th months, check on the hired hand before y write us that letter pleading for anot one. Maybe he's a gun nut too.—J. S.



COVER

Eastern pistol shooters . . . and a lot of Westerners who h made the trip . . . will recognize instantly the range on month's cover. The palmettos in the background are a d give-away. It's the familiar Tampa pistol range, scene fo many seasons of the Florida Mid-Winter Pistol Tournament. Kodachrome was taken last March by Navy photogra Leonard Rizzolla, who is an enthusiastic handgunner in addi to being interested in photography. Exposure data: Dayl Kodachrome in a 4x5 Speed Graphic, 1/10 second at f.16, w a haze filter.

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The AMERICAN RIFLEMAN

Official Journal of the National Rifle Association of America

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VOLUME 96 NUMBER 8

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RANDOM SHOTS

Switzerland—On the last Sunday in April the residents of the mountain hamlets in the canton of Appenzell converged on the town of Trongen to vote for new canton officials and other matters to be decided by referendum. Reporting the matter, International News Service said, "In keeping with the ancient tradition, each voter carries under his arm a weapon—usually a sabre, dagger or pistol—*to indicate his status as a free citizen* and as a guarantee of his right to vote." (EDITOR'S NOTE: Switzerland has maintained a republican form of government for 600 years and has the lowest crime rate of any nation.)

New York—In May, New York City's Mayor O'Dwyer signed a new city ordnance raising the pistol permit application fee from $1.50 to $10.00 and the annual renewal fee to $5.00. If the application is rejected the fee is not returned to the applicant. The taxpayers pay the cost of administering the law but the fees do not go into the general revenues of the city. They go directly to the Police Benevolent Fund! (EDITOR'S NOTE: No one may legally *possess* a pistol in New York without a pistol permit—including bank guards, armored-car crews and legally-chartered private protective agencies. Permits issued by police and judiciary officials outside of New York City are no good within the city unless approved by the city police. Mayor O'Dwyer is a former member of the law enforcement agencies in New York.)

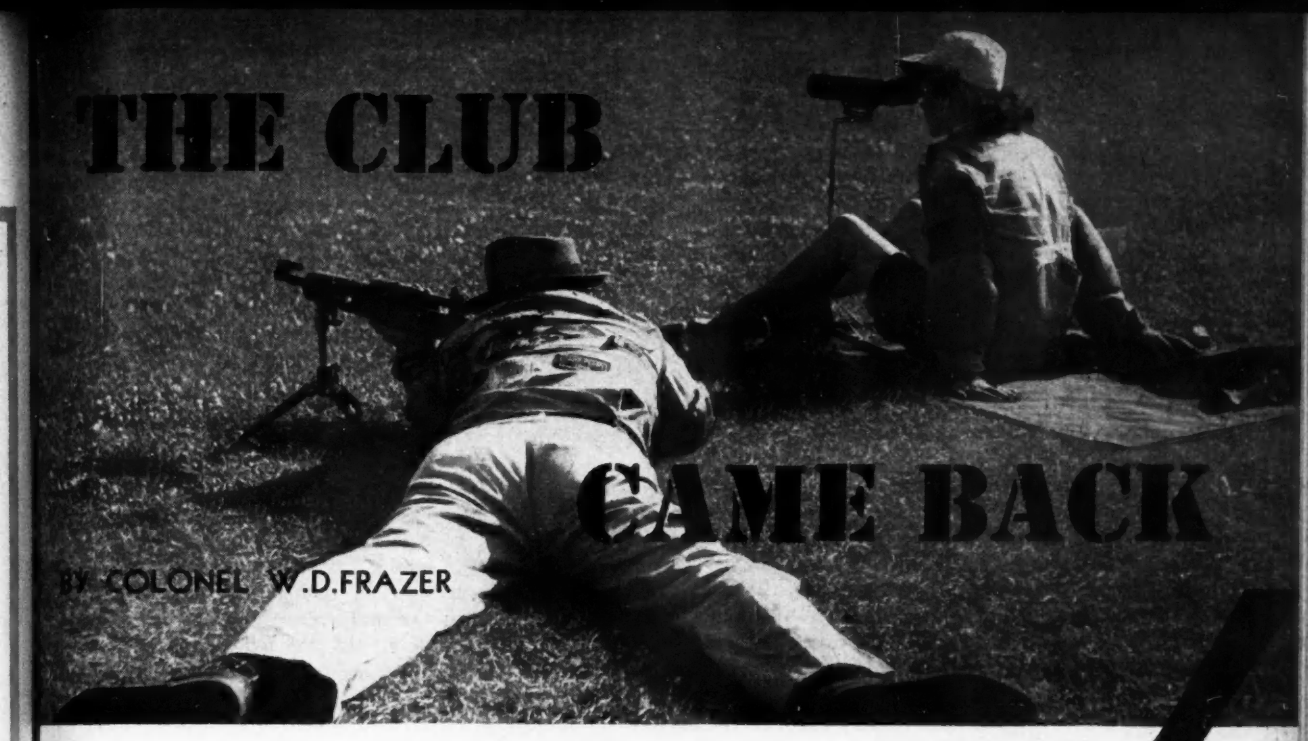
New York—On July 6th two housebreakers entered the home of a wealthy family on Long Island. Two women were slugged in their bedroom. The chauffeur, awakened by the noise, entered the bedroom with a revolver and held the two felons at gun point. The family's son and heir, also awakened, came into the room and ordered the chauffeur to let the thugs go. They did—with alacrity and with $1,000 in cash, plus jewelry of unstated value. When the police arrived they arrested the chauffeur for possessing a pistol without a police permit and locked him up for the night. (EDITOR'S NOTE: In America any citizen has the right, and the duty, to arrest any person caught in the commission of a felony and to hold him for the police. The son of the family therefore contributed directly to the escape of two legally-arrested felons. He was not arrested. The citizen making the arrest was jailed for the night. The criminals escaped. New York's crime rate is many times that of Switzerland.)

New Jersey—In May a police captain, who some years ago wounded a woman companion with a pistol while parked in a country lane, was shot and killed by another woman while he was on duty in his office. She used the captain's service revolver. (EDITOR'S NOTE: Revolvers may only be purchased in New Jersey when a purchase permit is issued by the police. The Attorney General of New Jersey, at the last session of the State Legislature, demanded passage of a law to require the registration of all privately-owned rifles, shotguns, and handguns because such a law would discourage private ownership and no one needed a gun except the police and military when on duty.)

New Jersey, July 13. The Associated Press reported that a police court judge was arrested and admitted embezzlement of $630,000 from a bank of which he was a vice-president and counsellor. Said he lost it all betting on the horses. (EDITOR'S NOTE: Judges may issue permits to purchase and carry pistols. They also try cases involving weapons carrying.)

Several thousand politicians will be talking about "Government of the people, by the people, for the people" during the next few months. Few of them are familiar with such facts as are described above. The time to educate them, to find out where they stand, is *before* you vote for them—while they are seeking election, not after they are safely in office!

C. B. Lister



THE CLUB CAME BACK

BY COLONEL W.D.FRAZER

THE OLD CLUB WAS ALL BUT DEAD . . . UNTIL A HANDFUL OF DETERMINED OLD-TIMERS GOT THEIR DANDER UP. THEIR PRESCRIPTION MIGHT CURE THAT AILING CLUB OF YOURS

THE OLD CLUB was almost down and out. It was weaving and reeling from lack of control and seemed about to lump into oblivion, with little or no incentive to maintain e struggle for existence.

From a brave start at the turn of the century and an enable record of achievements it had suffered the usual troubles shooting organizations, and at one time had actually passed t of the picture. Revived by a few former members, mostly istol shooters, the result was a new organization designated a pistol club and as such operated successfully for two ars. The club became so popular that it was decided to oaden the scope of its activities to include small-bore rifle ooting. This action soon made the membership top-heavy ith riflemen, so at the next annual meeting of the organizaon it was decided to form an association of rifle and pistol men d call the new venture the Seattle Rifle & Pistol Association, ter the Northwest's greatest city.

The new club was sparked by a small and enthusiastic oup of distinguished shooters—men imbued with an ambion to recover some of the lost prestige of a grand old organation. That prestige had been given much of its luster by e accomplishments of its most noted shot, the late George ("Dad") Farr. The record made by that 62-year-old fleman—70 consecutive bullseyes at 1,000 yards in the imbledon Cup Match at Camp Perry, Ohio in 1921, with the service rifle and service ammunition—has gone down into history as an all-time high in long-range service rifle marksmanship. From it resulted the establishment of the present George R. Farr Trophy, awarded in the Wimbledon Cup Match to the rifleman making high score with service rifle and ammunition. Other members of the club had won the Leech Cup, the National All-Around Championship (rifle, pistol, and shotgun), had represented America on International and Olympic pistol and rifle teams, and had always shown a good representation on the Washington State civilian and National Guard teams at Camp Perry.

Up to this time the club had been permitted by the military authorities to use the Fort Lawton range for its outdoor firing. It was admittedly desirable to have a shooting ground that could be controlled entirely by the club so, after much searching, a suitable seven-acre area was leased among the hills north of Seattle. A compact range was constructed for small- and big-bore firing up to 200 yards. A modern six-target butt and carrier system was installed. An old barn near the butts served as a target house. For hand gun shooting an eight-target pistol range was provided on the flank of the rifle range.

Much of the progress of the club in those days was due to the national boom in target shooting and to the well-rounded firing programs arranged. Local, state and regional matches, with medals for the novices as well as for the stars, appealed to the younger and less-experienced shooters while the honor of making a place on the state civilian and National Guard teams with a trip to the National Matches was the big inducement to the better shots.

Then came the recession that always occurs when an organization becomes so large that divergent interests creep into the picture. Shooters are temperamental and

COLONEL W. D. FRAZER will be remembered by Rifleman readers as Gene Hicker's hunting partner in the memorable story "Blonde Magic" (November 1947). A long-time contributor to outdoor magazines, Colonel Frazer has always been an exponent of fine marksmanship, whether in the hunting field or on the range. He has been active for many years both in rifle and pistol clubs and marksmanship training in U. S. colleges.

it doesn't take much to upset them, especially when it appears that the adherents of one shooting specialty are trying to rule the roost to the detriment of other forms of the sport. Soon cliques began to form. Friction arose over programs. Controversies developed over picayunish details of scoring targets, decisions of officials, and the manner in which the club was being operated by its officers. Discussions became heated, disgruntled members left the club and some were expelled. Finally, to cap it all, the war came along to add its obstacles to the maintenance of the game. Ammunition became scarce, our young men went into the services, our range was loaned to the armed forces and used continuously until the cessation of hostilities, and only the older members were left to keep the club alive.

In 1946 the organization really hit the skids through a series of circumstances which included the long hospitalization of the secretary-treasurer and the lack of time on the part of the other officers to keep the club active and under control. So little interest in club affairs was shown by the membership that a quorum could not be assembled at the annual club meeting and an additional one had to be called. No one wanted to accept nomination for office and it became necessary to draft the oldest living member of the club to head it up, simply because he had been instrumental in helping to put the organization back on its feet in 1929.

After much canvassing, a slate of officers was finally elected at a typical club meeting where many promises of support were given by those vociferous individuals who do much talking and no work, but who always are ready to demand much service for their especial enjoyment.

The new executive committee held its first meeting at the home of the president. There was a long evening of general discussion of club problems, combined with a little sociability in the form of a few groceries and beverages. Ideas were advanced and suggestions made for the improvement of the club and a practical plan for the year's activities began to take shape. Committees were appointed to audit the books; collect and inventory the club property and trophies which had become scattered throughout the area; to locate and check government ammunition and straighten out our accounts with the Director of Civilian Marksmanship; to prepare a match program and publish a monthly bulletin ("The Marksman"), and to arrange for a field day to put the outdoor range in order.

Executive committee meetings were held bi-weekly. After the first few it became evident that if the club was to function efficiently it would be advisable to get away from th practice which prevails in so many clubs throughout the try of letting the secretary run the organization. Our tary-treasurer, in addition to his normal vocation, w custom gunsmith in his spare time. He was much too to perform fully his club secretary's duties. Assigning of the secretary's duties, as prescribed in the by-laws, to members of the executive committee relieved the situ to some extent. Too, our range officer was operating a business. He found that his week-ends required his pre on his job, so he was unable to conduct a match throu the entire season. These little handicaps, combined wit fact that four of the six trustees did not attend any o

meetings of the executive committee, the burden of club work on the presi vice president and assistant range of Just why any of us accepted the respo bilities may seem strange but we were m vated by two purposes—the deep-down sire to prevent the collapse of a grand shooting organization, and the fighting instinct within to meet the challenge of making good under adverse cumstances.

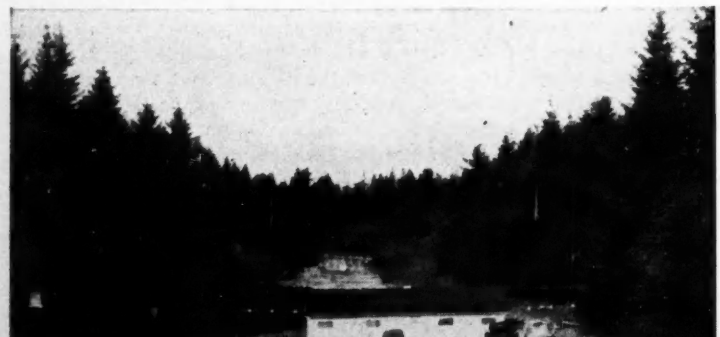
Did we have fun? Oh brother! We had a bull by the on an uphill pull, but our fighting blood was up and we be to go places.

A new club policy was formulated, based on the mission the association as we saw it, which was the impartial enco agement of all legitimate forms of rifle and pistol shooti This policy and our plans for the year were submitted to club and adopted by the members at a special meeting. T plan included seven points:

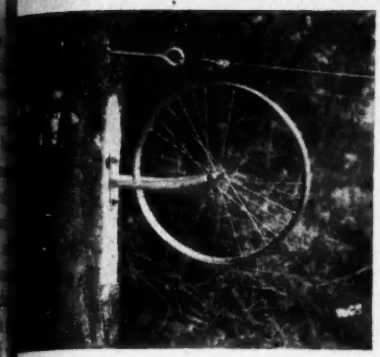
1) Increasing the club dues from three to five dollars year.
2) The payment of a fair salary to the secretary-tre urer.
3) The publication of a monthly club bulletin, "The Mar man."
4) The reorganization and development of the club's jun division.
5) The conduct of the necessary qualification shoots to ena the club to earn its share of government ammunition a target supplies distributed by the Director of Civil Marksmanship.
6) The preparation of a set of streamlined by-laws to be s mitted to the club at its next annual meeting.
7) The promulgation of an equitable plan for t selection of club teams to represent the as ciation in local, state, and regional comp tions.

Among the first efforts of the executive co mittee was the organization of a Field Day for clean-up of the outdoor range. We drew a n Sunday for the work and with twenty loy hardworking members we put the grounds a facilities in usable condition. Drains were open up, firing points and shooting house repair butts and carrier system put in order, fairw cleared of brush, and the pistol range renovate Hot coffee and doughnuts supplemented lunches, and during the noon hour a gene round-table discussion of club matters was he Good fellowship prevailed and we felt that were off to a good start.

Later in the season when our treasury wo



Washington State provides some attractive spots for ranges. No wonder shooting is popular!



Above: Three views of the Seattle Rifle and Pistol Club's running deer set-up. If your club is interested in one like it, a second-hand bicycle will provide most of the needed parts! Targets are "store bought," and mounted on plywood cutouts. Right: The author checking on the Seattle club's standing bear and deer targets and (extreme right) one of the 100-yard hunter's targets

stand it, we provided sandwich materials and beverages gratis for those attending some of our weekly matches. Much favorable comment resulted from this custom.

Well, last year the club really began to get somewhere. The calendar of events included something for every taste: weekly small-bore league shoots, indoor matches, position events, hunter's matches, .30 caliber, regional and state title matches, pistol events, days when the range was open for all-comers' practice sessions, snipers' matches, and qualification firing. During 1947 there were almost fifty events sponsored by the old club. Dead? Not by a long jump!

One feature of our year's program which proved to be of considerable interest to an important group of our membership was the introduction of hunting marksmanship matches at standing and running deer and bear targets. We have many hunting riflemen who pay annual dues. About all they got out of the club was the use of the range for sighting-in their rifles prior to the opening of the big game seasons in Washington and adjacent British Columbia. It has always seemed to this writer that one of the greatest means of promoting all-around rifle practice in this country has been sadly neglected by our clubs and by the national organizations, and that if more attention was given to hunting marksmanship there would be a much greater appeal made to the fun-loving inclinations of American youth. While admitting all of the good points of standard-bird rifle and pistol practice, those games at their best are dull and uninteresting compared with the thrills that go with shooting at game targets or clay pigeons. The commercial shooting gallery with its great variety of bustible or upsettable targets has a greater popular appeal than plugging holes in inanimate paper targets. The objection to running deer targets is the expense of installation and of operation. Also, there are no standardized national competitions at running-game targets to encourage the development of such practice. In the Olympic Matches held in Europe some years ago such competitions were popular and, if my memory serves me correctly, Major Keith Boles of the American Olympic rifle team of 1924 won the running deer championship at the Olympics in France that year.

At Camp Perry the running-deer range was always popular until the demand for more 1,000-yard targets and expanded smallbore and pistol ranges forced the elimination of the "galloping goat."

To encourage practice at game targets we decided to hold one hunter's match a month and to devote all weekends of the month just prior to the opening of the big game season to such practice and to the sighting-in of hunting rifles.

These shoots showed an average increase in entries over our normal matches of approximately 50 percent. The whole effort to promote hunting marksmanship, of course, was in the nature of a trial balloon. In order to expose the targets for a few seconds we merely thrust a target nailed to a stick above the butts or, later, attached them to the carrier of the sliding target frame and ran them up and down. The paper deer targets were obtained from a New York dealer, pasted on plywood and the silhouette of the deer cut out with a coping saw. This target was then nailed to a 1 by 4 by 8 inch board and the whole thing rigged to the target carrier. By the way, in conducting hunters' matches it is well to have separate events for different rifles. The men with .30-30 arms equipped with open sights do not like to shoot against custom-made .30-'06 rifles with telescope sights. On one occasion, though, we did have a man with a .30-30 carbine clean up on everyone in one of the 100-yard matches.

As the game season approached we learned that all the rifle ranges in the vicinity were being closed to non-members of local clubs and that a great horde of hunters did not have any place to sight-in their rifles except in the woods or the gravel pits. We decided to capitalize on this by inviting non-club hunters to shoot on our range if they *(Continued on page 42)*

From nearby rural areas, 'teen-age youngsters arrive for Williams' shooting classes. Age limit for school is ten through eighteen

SCHOOL FOR JUNIORS

IN A UNIQUE SHOOTING SCHOOL, A MICHIGAN SPORTING GOODS DEALER TEACHES THE YOUNGSTERS OF HIS COUNTY HOW TO HANDLE FIREARMS SAFELY AND ACCURATELY

Photographs for THE AMERICAN RIFLEMAN by Richard L. Reish

Last year Harvey Williams, who owns a sporting-goods st in Davison, Michigan, was approached by the leaders of a lo High-Y club. Would he be interested in lecturing on safety w firearms before a 'teen-age audience? Williams promptly sent s Dale. About a hundred Genesee County youngsters were the As Dale Williams talked, he asked a few questions. How ma of the youngsters hunted? Most of the hands went up. Were th permitted to hunt alone? Some hands went up again. Williams decided, on spur of the moment, to take a chance on something. How many would like attend a school in firearms handling and safety Every hand popped up. Be Dale Williams could get away from the youngsters, he had promised to st classes in marksmanship, where they could work out with real rifles instead just talking about them.

Over 150 boys and girls turned out for the first session of the Williams Sho ing School. The program had been well planned. There was nothing to except a couple of boxes of cartridges. State conservation men and police we on hand, eager to take part in the venture. The NRA donated diplomas, sight charts, and posters. Williams supplied rifles if the youngsters had none of th own. Local rifle clubs pitched in. In three Saturday sessions, the young were given a healthy dose of sportsmanship and safety, plus enough marksman training to start them out in the target-shooting game. Held again this y (when these pictures were taken), the school drew better than 200 pupils.

If Williams' shooting classes becomes annual affairs, which they probably w Michigan's Genesee County stands a fair chance of winding up as one of Ameri safest areas as far as firearms are concerned.

Field representative Dow Smith, who travels in midwest area, was on for this year's classes to explain workings of NRA's junior program. of the youngsters qualified for Association's junior qualification awards

No chance was lost to drive home to youngsters the basic lessons of safety. Here they study posters furnished by the NRA. Emphasis on care and common sense in handling firearms helped convince parents of the school's value

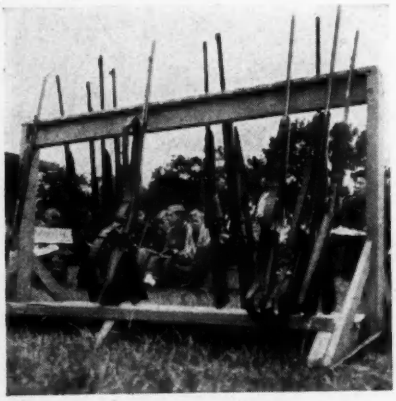
ng Dwight Wheeler is taking no chances as instructor Harold Lambert his target. Targets are special affairs developed by Williams for test- Everything was free except cartridges. Each boy purchased two boxes

Only casualties of school were suffered by blankets used as shooting mats. Wet ground and showers made classes difficult on last day of school, but failed to dampen ardor of the two hundred 'teen-aged youngsters attending

Howell, retired naval ordnance man, demonstrated proper cleaning methods and routine care of guns. Similar lectures were features of each class

Entire group listens as Dale Williams lectures on safety. Unlike most schools, Williams' had no problem in holding attention of youngsters. Each was required to memorize the "ten commandments" of safety before getting graduation certificate. Other group instruction periods included demonstration by Remington's regional representative, and talks by men from state conservation department and state police

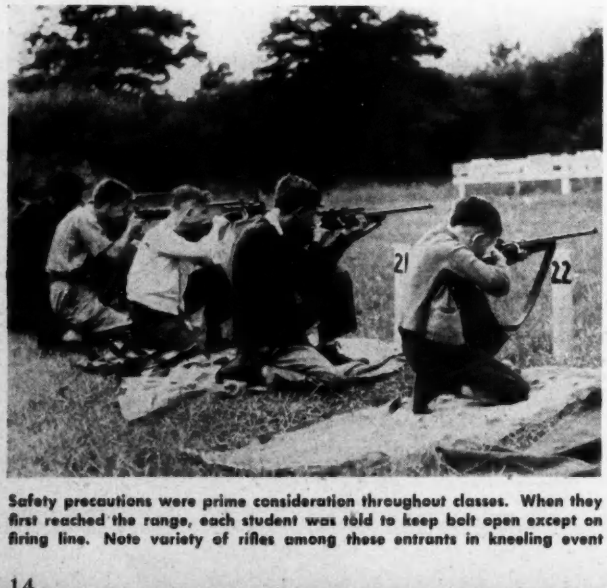
After getting targets at Williams shop, [illegible] girls are on way to range. During week[illegible] range was open for practice free of [illegible] School was held on 3 successive Satur[illegible]



Michigan is 'shooter's country,' and most of the youngsters owned their own rifles. For those who did not, store-owner Williams provided this rack of light-weight .22 caliber rifles free of charge

George Tack, district conservation department supervisor, outlined the principles of wildlife conservation, and stressed the part the shooter and hunter can play in protecting U. S. game supply

Final school-championship match was featu[illegible] last day. Here fourteen-year old Janet Cl[illegible] Flint adjusts her sling before the big event. [illegible] took third place, was only girl among high [illegible]



Safety precautions were prime consideration throughout classes. When they first reached the range, each student was told to keep bolt open except on firing line. Note variety of rifles among these entrants in kneeling event

Students of Williams school hung own targets between relays of match. [illegible] of instruction was handled by Williams' sons, aided by members of [illegible] clubs. Youngsters were instructed in kneeling, sitting, and standing [illegible]

Throughout the practice sessions and 'graduation' match, Williams students were given constant attention. Here Dick Williams watches over a section of firing line. Though this year's school was only the second, it is already famous locally. Some youngsters came 100 miles to attend classes

Physical handicap failed to keep this youngster out of the final match. One of the best points about shooting game is fact that handicapped persons who cannot compete in any 'strenuous' sport can successfully manage a rifle. Present national champion Wayne Moore of Washington, Pa., has wooden leg

"A seven at eight o'clock. Must have been that gust of wind." Interest like this was typical of the reaction shown by the youngsters who attended. Most parents were equally enthusiastic

As is customary at small bore matches, southpaws are squadded off to themselves so their reverse prone position will not interfere with other shooters. Five who attended were left handers

The winners: John Thompson of Davison (left); Gerald Maschino, Davison; Don Purzicki of Flint, who made best group, and Janet Clark, Flint. Maschino was youngest winner (12 years)

WILLIAMS SCHOOL TRAINS YOUNGSTERS IN GOOD CITIZENSHIP

In one light, Harvey Williams' junior shooting school is a purely commercial venture. More young riflemen now will mean more grown-up riflemen, who one day will be potential customers of the William store. But far more important than that is the implication that his school and others like it carry for the future of the whole sport. Chances are slim that a Williams graduate will ever figure in an I-didn't-know-it-was-loaded tragedy, or wind up in a delinquency court because he endangered others by promiscuous shooting. The job being done in Genesee County should serve as a challenge to every gun store, every rifle club, every state police force and conservation department in the country.

If each of the NRA's 5,000 rifle and pistol clubs would devote one week of its outdoor season to the planned, intensive training of local youngsters in the fundamentals of marksmanship and safety with firearms, the future of shooting in America would be insured for all time.

Williams' interest in youngsters has made big hit with parents, many of whom are his customers. Fathers and mothers are so enthusiastic about 1947-1948 classes that school will probably become an annual affair

I WALKED ALONE.....

BY LEWIS V. CUMMINGS

IN AFRICA ONE DOES NOTHING PRECIPITATELY, EXCEPT SHOOT STRAIGHT ....

I HAVE BEEN to Africa four times and spent about eighteen months in the bush. Each time I went as a seaman, jumped ship with a pack and rifle, and lit out alone.

My first trip—I had planned the time to take advantage of the dry season—began at Beira in Mozambique (Portuguese East Africa) in March 1925. I carried an issue Springfield with a high front sight, which gave a 'battle sight' range of about one hundred fifty yards. For ammunition I had one hundred 180-grain Western hollow points and two bandoleers of 180-grain Match Palma cartridges. The former served well on the smaller antelope, but broke up too rapidly on the larger eland, kudu, and wildebeest. The solid Palmas did fairly well on the bigger beasts but fell far short of being really safe for use on them. I felt quite cocky when one bullet killed a large hippo stone dead. A few days later I tackled a herd of buffalo. Got the first with one shot, but the second took six Palmas and then drove me into the Chengani River. Saw elephants but never bothered them. Got one lion also. He was running away when I raked him at about eighty yards. He turned around and started right back to visit me. Two more raking shots stopped him and the next killed him. Walked into Lourenco Marques in September, five hundred miles later, and reshipped back home. Game: about thirty head.

On my second trip I planned to go back to Beira, where the ship customarily lay loading for three weeks. I intended to spend those three weeks along the upper Pungwe River just below the marble Chimanimani Mountains. For that period, I figured, a .405 Winchester and about eighty rounds should suffice. However, accidents will happen, and on April 9, 1929, we wrecked the S. S. Western Knight twelve miles from Port Elizabeth, at the southern tip of the continent. I took off by car, rail, and bicycle and reached Messina in the Northern Transvaal. The Limpopo River is six miles from Messina. I walked across it and turned eastward for a few days. Holed up with a kayah (village) of Mavendas for a while, then turned back northwest. I met Major Pretorious, the famous elephant hunter, on the Bubi River. Traded him the .405 for a 9 mm. Mauser and one hundred thirty rounds. Angled off to the Lundi River, followed it down to the Sabi River, and then went north. On August 21, 1929, I walked into Umtali, Southern Rhodesia; was picked up and deported back to the United States. Distance walked: about seven hundred fifty miles. Game taken: about thirty head. Only got into trouble twice that trip, once with a wounded buffalo and once with a troop of quarrelsome baboons.

My third trip was undertaken after careful analysis of all I had learned before. My minutely selected outfit was carried in a pack of my own sewing. The rifle was again a set-trigered 9 mm. Mauser and my ammunition was bought in Burban—for American 9 mm.'s made in those days were poor indeed. Again I dropped off at Beira, in March 1932. My route lay northwest, passing far south of Tete, across the Rhodesian border to the Shanji River, which I followed down to the Zambezi, reaching it at Kanyembe, opposite Beira. I kept on the west side of the Luangua River, with the Muchinga Mountains on my left. The region is largely deserted by the natives because of sleeping sickness and is incredibly full of game. Made one excursion across into Mutuwarra territory and the Mavuradonna Mountains. Went through the northern end of the Muchingas and swung west to avoid the great forests south of Bangweulu. There live Awatwa pigmies who are prone to casually shoot small poisoned arrows into passers-by on the forest trails. Down to Bangweulu no man should walk alone. It's a terrible land of great open plains where untold game lives, where mosquitoes rise with a roar as the sun goes down. There along the Karungu (the Awemba call it "the river where a man can neither swim nor drown" because it is so full of crocodiles a man could not live long enough to do either) I stayed two weeks to kill a couple of elephants of a herd which was eating the natives' crops. Then

n in a zigzag course across the great basin. Went through he Chingambo Mountains (which white men call the Langenerg range). Down to Lake Rukhwa. North of the lake the Kimbo country is called the Bohora Flats, a vast rolling plain ursed with sleeping sickness, where wander great herds of lephants, crusty rhinos, and where one sleeps and wakes to he grand chorus of roaring lions. That region was too tough or me. I turned back to Rukhwa, and followed up the Luba iver, heading southeast until I reached the hills where it ises. Crossed the plains and came to the Rovuma River, nd that is really a wild country. Over the Rovuma is Mozambique. I crossed back. Went on to Beira, arriving here in November just as the rains were getting bad. Walked nto the American Consulate with eight cartridges, after eight months and I don't know how many miles on the trail. Game aken: about eighty head including six elephants, two rhinos, our buffaloes (one of which had an abscessed tooth and had illed a man), two hippos (one of which was a crop destroyer who had also wrecked a dugout canoe, killing three women who were fishing from it), four lions (one a confirmed cattle iller), several crocodiles (one a notorious man-killer which equired four days stalking before I got a shot), one leopard, he cheetah, and one real rarity there, a giant brown hyena. All game shot was for food for myself or the gentle, friendly nd hospitable natives among whom I traveled. They were of any tribes—Basengas, Angonis, Yaos, Awembas, Mutuvarras, Makalambas, Akimbos, and others. All spoke varints of the Zulu tongue—Kis-Swahili is basically Zulu—so e got along famously. I traveled with them, hunted with hem, ate with them, slept with them, got drunk with them. s I traveled alone and met them on a man to man basis, heard and learned things few other white men ever hear r learn. Certainly one who visits Africa with a big xpedition learns little about the natives or the game.

I tried it again in 1937, this time umping ship in the Belgian Congo, at Matadi. I lasted only three weeks, owever, before I was overtaken by a atrol, escorted back to Boma and deorted. That time I carried a 7 mm. Model 54 Winchester. With it I got hree West African red bush buffalo, one ippo, and a few other game.

I have wandered around a great deal one elsewhere, in Mexico and Central merica and into China and Tibet as ar as KumBum. In August, 1921, I ft Bogota, Colombia, alone, and eached San Fernando de Atabapo on he Orinoco River twenty-three months ter. Fifteen of those months were ent with a tribe of Indians on the midle Guaviere River. There I became warrior of the tribe, married three of eir women, went on the war trail with ther young warriors. There too I arned the woodcraft which permitted e to later travel the African bush in fety. I wrote this trip into a book, *was a Headhunter*, which was pubshed by Houghton-Mifflin and has also en translated and published in six ther countries.

Let me recount events of one trip.

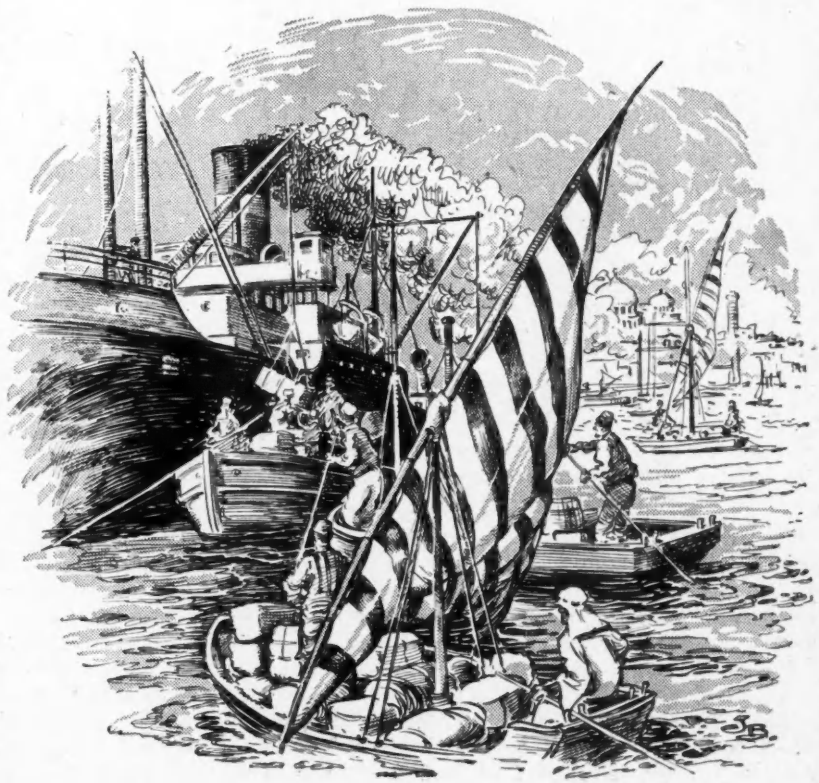
It was relatively cool in the open forest, while walking alone on my third trip, but the gray tsetse flies fitted with red-hot iron teeth made the shaded trail a curse and a torture. They bit through my khaki clothing and almost drove me mad. It was with thankfulness that I saw the mile-wide open dambo ahead. It was covered with tall elephant grass cut by many game trails. Its sunswept spaces offered welcome relief from the flies. They love the shade and abominate the open sunlight.

A hundred yards or so out on the dambo stood a tall cream-colored 'fever tree,' so-called because they grow only in places where sufficient water exists to breed mosquitoes to carry malaria and blackwater fever to all who dwell there. Its scant tiny leaves would afford little shelter from the vertical sun but its tall presence would make my short stay there less lonely. It was mid-morning, time for breakfast.

I leaned my heavy pack, water bag, and loaded rifle against the tree, gathered twigs and soon had breakfast cooking—feterita meal mush and boiled chicken from my billy tin. The chicken was a present from the hospitable warrior whose little mudzi (settlement) I had left at daybreak, four hours and a dozen miles behind me.

Breakfast over, I leaned back, rolled a cigarette. The breeze caught the smoke and whirled it away over the dambo.

A moment later I dropped the cigarette and was on my feet, rifle ready and searching for a target. There had been a sudden, explosive short snort out there in the grass, followed by a whoofing exhalation and the pound of running feet. My senses, sharpened by months of lone wandering in the African bush, immediately grasped and analyzed the situation. Rhinoceros! Chipembe, as the Angonis call them. They hate and fear them. I simply hated them. Rhinoceros are ugly, dangerous, blundering, brainless, eternally pugnacious fatheads who resent the presence of mankind out of sheer cussedness. I had had trouble with others before but so far



had been able to avoid killing one. But this antediluvian bonehead had caught my scent and was charging it blindly. There on the open dambo it could not be avoided; this was a case where I'd have to kill.

I moved several yards out into the trail.

An instant later the rhino, head down and horns pointed wickedly forward, ridiculous little tail rigidly upright, burst from the grass sixty yards away.

My 9 mm. Mauser swung up and the front sight rested briefly on the rhino's chest at the sticking place.

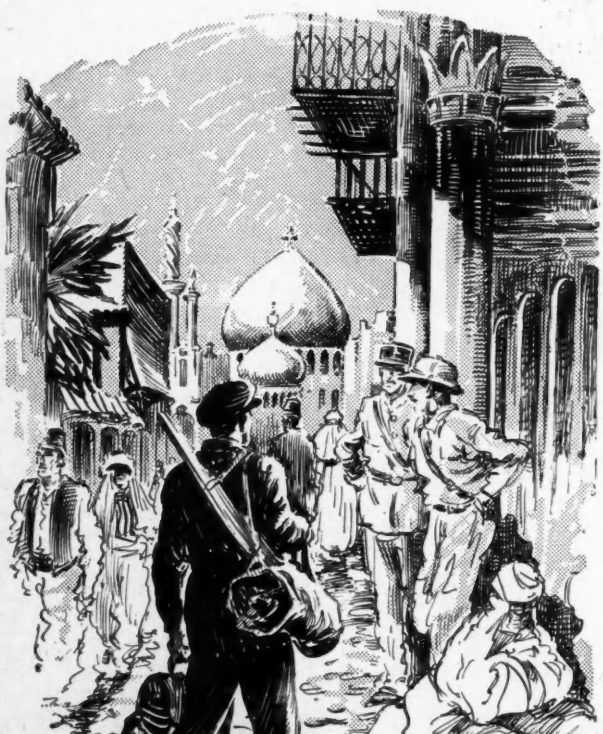
Bang! Dust flew from the point of aim as the bullet struck his dusty hide.

I worked the bolt with the precision of long practice and shifted the point of aim higher, on the neck.

Bang! The bullet, traveling at an acute angle to the slope of the neck, cut a long slit and bright red blood jetted in a wide stream.

Bang! This time the bullet was aimed at the base of the horn, now less than a score of steps distant.

I yanked the bolt open as I leaped aside, slammed it shut,



and drove the fourth shot into the rhino's shoulder as it swept blindly past.

Again the rifle raised, for another shot I had found deadly, at the spine or the root of the tail. A bullet there breaks down the whole locomotive apparatus in the aftersection of an animal, anchoring it.

But I held fire. Subconsciously I became aware that the fifth shot would be unnecessary—and I had long ago learned not to waste ammunition; it's too hard to come by in the African bush. Already the animal's actions were sw changing. The fierce drive of its great muscles became uncertain. The great beast was rocking on its feet. A yards farther it was staggering into the weird 'death so characteristic of the mortally wounded rhinoceros. seems to be a manifestation of determination to stay up for in Africa the sick or injured does not willingly lie To do so is too likely to invite attention and probable from the many hungry carnivores which are awaiting such a chance. So in a futile, and somehow terrible, att to stay upright the rhino flings out its feet in the direction the fall in a last desperate striving to stave off approach dissolution. The big brute fell to its knees and rolled over its left side.

I stood still a moment, rifle ready, watching. In A one who walks alone does nothing precipitately, except straight. There one's tenure upon existence is too precar for unconsidered actions.

But the rhino was really dead. The full-jacketed ro nosed 9 mm. bullets had gone exactly where I wanted t The first went through the big arteries connecting the h and lungs, the second cut the big throat artery higher Both had traversed virtually the length of the body emerged low between the hind legs. The third, aimed a base of the horn, stayed inside. The fourth, fired into left shoulder, emerged from the right shoulder, making exit wound hardly larger than the bullet itself. I don't k what it hit inside. But the results of the four shots were one could wish; the rhino kept its feet hardly twenty sec after the first bullet hit it.

That 9 mm. Mauser rifle and ammunition were my c sidered choice of armament for this, my third hunting t walking alone through the African bush. Mausers are t ditionally reliable, and they, with the British .303, are most commonly used 'poor man's rifles' in Africa, in 7 m 8 mm., and 9 mm. calibers. The cartridges are obtain wherever ammunition is sold, a factor borne in mind and fluencing the selection.

Of the four, the 9 mm. is the most powerful. Its accura and killing power are excellent. Yet it is not too heavy t carried in quantity. Its recoil is comparatively light, so it be fired rapidly, if necessary, and there it is not infrequen very necessary.

I used German ammunition, purchased in South Afr This fires a bullet of 239 grains weight, of .358 inch diamet in a barrel 72 cm. (about 28.6 inches) in length it devel 2396 foot-seconds muzzle velocity and about 3054 foot-pou energy.

I wanted a rifle which could kill the largest beasts, yet wh would not unduly smash up the smaller game. The 9 m filled the bill. It killed over eighty head of game, rang from tiny grysbok and dikdik antelope to lions, buffalo, noceros, and elephant. It never let me down.

I started the trip with two hundred forty rounds. Of th one hundred were full-jacketed solids. Those I intended use against very large and dangerous game, and convers for smaller food-animals and birds. For the first, penetrat was the objective. I had found by previous experience t on big beasts the 9 mm. showed no discernible shock pow it killed by enormous penetration and by piercing vital orga As it was round-nosed and solid it killed smaller animals birds without undue destruction of meat. Because there usually a possibility of meeting dangerous game along routes I traveled, I often carried my rifle magazine loaded w these bullets.

For use on lions and the larger antelope I had another hundred cartridges loaded with my favorite 'Stigand' type expanding bullets. These had a very tiny exposure of lead at the tip. They performed excellently on large game. Their expansion was very uniform, to about sixty caliber; their penetration was surprisingly good, and they lost very little weight in their passage through game.

One 'Stigand' fired at the shoulder of a large cow buffalo at some forty yards range, tore a four inch hole through one lung and emerged from the solid bone and muscle of the opposite shoulder, making an exit wound an inch in diameter. It knocked the buffalo down—and then my trouble began. Unknowingly I had slipped into the middle of a large herd, widely scattered through the bush during the siesta hour. The others, panicked at the shot, rushed frantically in all directions, including at me! I was busy dodging them for awhile. Then the wounded animal regained its feet, with blood and froth streaming from its nostrils, and charged me determinedly. Two more shots, one through the body and another through the head, were required to stop it. All three bullets mushroomed but went through the beast. Another time three water bucks were wanted for food for a village of friendly natives. A herd was located. Three were shot, all facing me at about eighty yards range. Each was struck in the neck and killed by a single shot. When the natives cut them up, all three bullets, perfectly mushroomed, were recovered from the hindquarters, after about three feet of penetration. A zebra was shot at about forty yards, running away. The bullet struck under the tail, and emerged from the neck. It too killed instantly, wrecking all the organs in its way.

As a result of tales I heard among the Basengas along the lower reaches of the Luangwa River, I crossed to the east of the river and headed northward toward the Mavuradonna Mountains and the home of the Mutuwarra tribe. It was a wild and desolate land of rolling, stony hills covered by thorn bush and gravelly valleys wherein grew malala palms and attenuated groves of other trees. Frequent valleys harbored creeks arising in the river-breeding mountains, and these were often bordered by tangles of giant trees, vines, and elephant grass.

Tsetse flies had moved into the region not long before and had largely killed off the antelope and buffalo, leaving unharmed the elephants, crusty rhinos, lions, leopards, hyenas, jackals, and ravening bands of wild dogs. Decimation of the game, their food supply, drove the carnivores into desperate hunger and stark savagery. As I found out later, they took to raiding the natives' cattle and goats. The Mutuwarras are a hard, fierce, warlike, arrogant people, to be trifled with by none, not even lions. They turned out and began a campaign of reprisals, with dog, spear and bow, trap and snare, and poison. Young warriors formed *hondos*, war parties; they ran down leopards and lions and fought them with bleak courage and long-bladed assegais. Both lions and warriors died in these savage frays.

As I traveled the dim native trails alone, night often found me far from any of the widely scattered little settlements. Then I always cut an adequate supply of firewood against the sharp cold of the African night and built a small round zareba (inclosure) of cut thorn bushes to sleep in, for protection against the many things which walk the dark bush, with sharp teeth and claws and driven by fierce hunger.

One day I traveled along a clear, beautiful creek which the natives call the Nyama Kungwa, Crow's Meat. It is the only water for miles, and consequently game resort to it. Carnivores haunt its wooded shores, preying upon game. What remains, as the natives say sardonically, is fortune-sent for the black and white carrion crows.

Toward evening a spur-fowl, a trusting pheasant-like bird, permitted me to approach near enough for a certain head shot . . . supper.

I filled my water bag and retreated a few hundred yards to the base of the stony hills. Ample firewood was quickly obtained, and thorn bush cut and built into a zareba as protection against the pawed-animals whose spoor was unpleasantly plentiful along the trail.

Dusk had fallen by the time supper was over. Down by the creek jackals howled, and somewhere a hyena tittered insanely over a disappointing find, the white bones of some animal killed and eaten the night before, and scavenged clean during the day by Africa's omnipresent vultures. Beyond the ridge a howling pack of wild dogs swept past.

The night promised to be clear, so I did not pitch my little tanalite tent; I felt better sleeping free of its hampering walls. I laid out my tarp and placed my only blanket upon it. My last act was to fill the Mauser magazine with Stigand type ammunition and load a long-lead soft-point into the chamber. The loaded and cocked rifle was laid beside me. One sleeps well out there in the bush, sleeps well with ears still alert and senses still on guard, waking occasionally to replenish the protecting fire.

Hours passed. Then suddenly I was awake, instantly aware that the thorn walls of my little zareba were moving and rocking—awake, rifle in hand and blanket tossed aside.

The multiple movement was answered by a deep, rumbling growl, and the zareba shook violently. Part of the side started to recede before my startled eyes. I looked through the matted thorn wall. Not seven feet distant feral eyes flared green in the firelight. A lion had the butt of a thorn bush in his teeth and was pulling on it. Entangled with adjoining branches it was moving the whole side of the zareba.

I leaned forward and thrust the rifle barrel through the wall. The movement caused the lion to growl, continuously, a deep, blood-curdling threat which gave me nightmares for days afterward. It heaved back on the bush. The whole wall moved a foot or two. The movement swung the rifle barrel erratically upward.

I rose to my knees, raised the rifle butt, thrusting the rifle forward until the muzzle was barely a foot from the lion's neck, and pulled the trigger. The rifle crashed, and the powder flame licked out and fanned over the lion's hair. The flash of the shot destroyed the delicate eye-balance which permitted me to look into the faintly illumined night. But I didn't care; I knew what had happened and that it would not be necessary to see to shoot again.

I waited a moment until I could see the collapsed brute, the great head with its still-open eyes, fallen between the great paws. I reloaded the chamber with another soft-point cartridge and placed the Mauser again on the tarp. Then I wrapped myself again in the blanket, rebuilt the fire and cooked an early breakfast. There would be no more sleep that night.

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HOW ACCURATE ARE THEY?

A REPORT ON THE CAPABILITIES OF SOME TYPICAL .22 CALIBER PISTOLS WITH "ACROSS-THE-COUNTER" AMMUNITION . . . BY FRED M. SEGUIN

WHAT ACCURACY CAN WE expect from a modern .22-caliber target pistol? Is there any appreciable difference between various brands of ammunition in the same gun? Is there an advantage in using higher-priced target ammunition? How does the .22 short rate? Is high-speed ammunition unsatisfactory for pistol target shooting? Are group patterns constant? Is the revolver as accurate as the automatic?

Admittedly accuracy is not the only important requisite of a handgun. Dependability is probably more important than accuracy. However, most of us agree that the end of all qualities is to lay 'em in the black—whether it be the result of the intrinsic accuracy of the arm or the result of the favorably-balanced mental condition of the shooter. So let's go after the cold, hard facts of accuracy performance.

For these tests the machine rest seemed to be the only answer to the accuracy proposition, and a good one. The Potter Revolver Rest was chosen for the job because of its ability to handle .22-caliber pistols. In this rest both revolvers and automatic pistols with fixed barrels can be tightly clamped by the barrel in the same position.

Whether another type of machine rest could have given better results or whether the method of supporting the rest was adequate is up to question. However, by the end of the tests the writer was well satisfied. The machine rest was carefully bedded on a sturdy diagonally-braced table for the greater part of the test. Twice during the test the rest was moved to the ground where it was worked into the soil and then staked in position. This was done to satisfy, in my own mind, by comparative groups, that the table position was solid enough to give true results, which it proved to be.

The seven pistols used were borrowed from fellow club members, with the exception of one belonging to the writer, and are quite representative of those found in practically every club in the country. All have 6- or 6½-inch barrels.

The ammunition was bought 'over-the-counter' and represented most of the popular brands. It was all fresh stock with the exception of a small supply of greased long-rifle ammunition of medium velocity which had been on hand a few years and which is denoted 'Western' in the tabulation.

A word about the targets: Most of the guns rated on target and about 8 kinds of ammunition. However, a couple guns made more than one target. Occasionally a little trouble was experienced in running off the edge of the paper with group and in having groups run into each other. The elevation adjustment on the rest is a little tricky when trying to separate two groups of ammunition having different velocities. Sometimes a group would start out nicely separated from another and then on subsequent shots run into it.

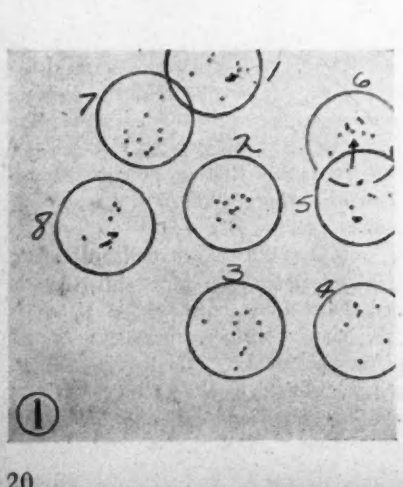
The weather was unusual during the tests. It was perfect. It was calm, mild, and sunshiny throughout the experiment. All targets but one (No. 11) were fired at fifty yards.

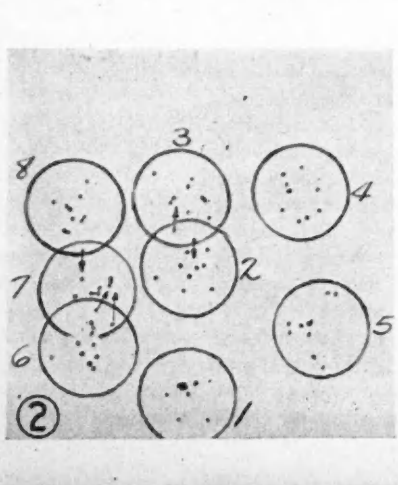
The firing and spotting of many of the groups brought to light certain possibilities and questions. For instance, at times the first few shots of some groups would appear to have a climbing or dropping tendency. Some would appear to have a tendency toward definite horizontal or vertical dispersion. However, when such phenomena were observed, almost without exception, subsequent shots in the same group would disprove any theory of regularity.

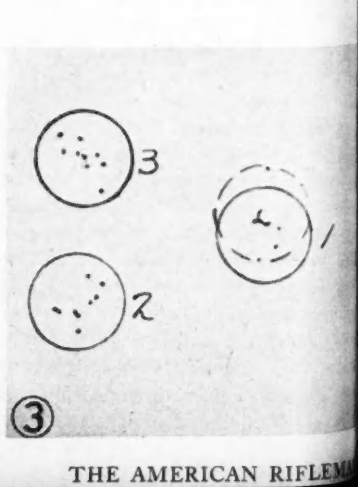
Progress was not hurried and extreme control was exercised at all times. The trigger was squeezed as uniformly as possible for each shot. The position of the hand on the pistol grip was especially watched and maintained constant. All groups were fired slowly with the exception of a few that are noted as rapid fire groups in the tabulations. Every shot was spotted and complete notes made on all groups as they were fired.

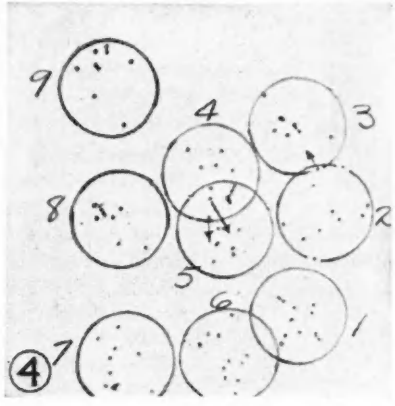
In the illustrations each group has been circled by a black ring of the same diameter as the ten ring of the standard fifty-yard target—3.39 inches. An exception to this is the 100-yard target, on which the groups are contained by straight lines. In cases where some question would arise as to where a bullet hole belonged, an arrow points toward the right group.

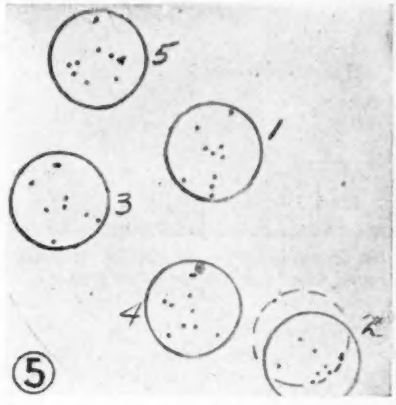
The ten-ring circles are usually well centered over the groups. In some cases an additional circle of dotted lines is superimposed over the group to show that some of the outs

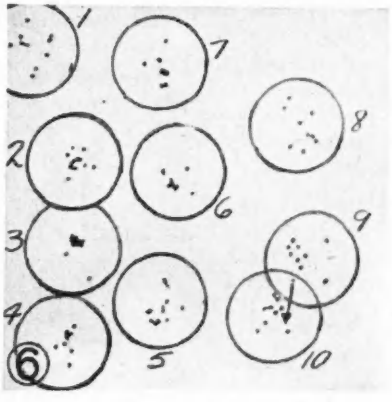


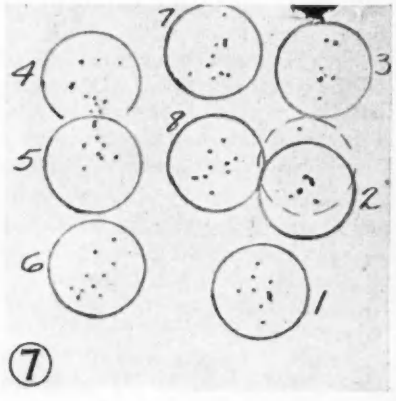


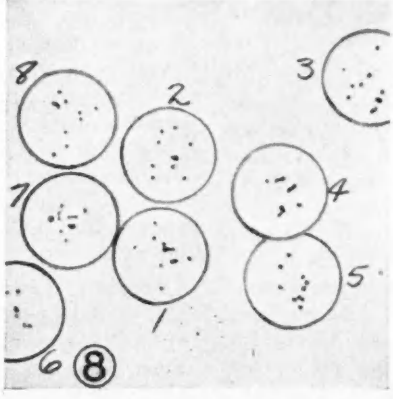


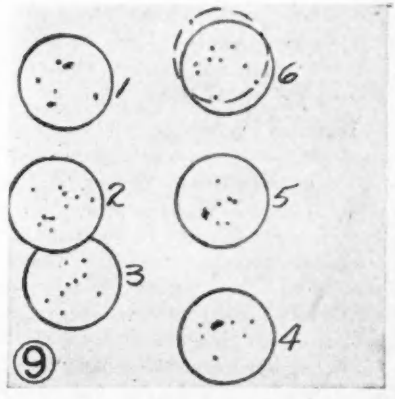












The seven pistols and revolvers at the top of this page were used in the author's machine-rest tests. Each is numbered to correspond with the targets on these and the following page. Because some shots strayed into wrong group, arrows are used to indicate proper circle. Circles are 3.39 inch

bullet holes could still be in the ten ring if the group were thrown off center.

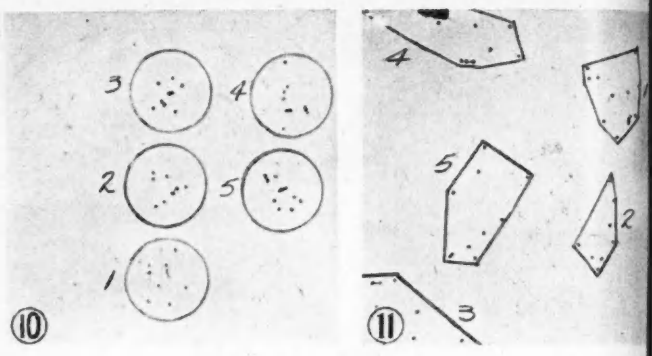
Here then are the detailed results. All group measurements were made center-to-center of the outside holes in horizontal and vertical directions, and measurements are indicated in that order.

Target 1 was fired with a Hi-Standard Model H-D Military, purchased new by the owner in 1946. Group 1: Western Xpert Ammunition, 1-15/16 horizontal by 1½-inch vertical. Group 2: Western Super-X, ⅞ by 1. Group 3: Western, 2 by 2. Group 4: Western 1-13/16 by 1⅞ for what is on the paper. There were no misses which would have increased the measurements considerably. Group 5: Remington Hi-Speed Kleanbore, 1⅜ by 1⅜. Group 6: Peters Target, 1½ by 1¾. Group 7: Peters High Velocity, 1-5/16 by 1. Group 8: Winchester Super Speed, 1-3/16 by 1⅜.

By far the tightest and most uniform group produced on target 1 was Group 2. It was made with high-speed ammunition which is generally thought to be less accurate than regular speed. There is no doubt from this and some of the other high-speed groups that this particular Military Model does its best with the hot stuff.

Target 2 was made by a regular Colt Woodsman. This gun was purchased new through a regular dealer in 1941. Group 1: Western Xpert, 1-7/16 inch horizontal by 15/16 inch vertical. Group 2:

This is the author's testing set-up. The machine rest is a Potter. Every shot was spotted as fired



Target at left was fired at 100 yards with author's Woods

Western Super-X, 1-15/16 by 1¾. Group 3: Western, 1-15/16 by 2. Group 4: Western, 1-5/16 by 1-15/16. Group 5: Remington Hi-Speed Kleanbore, 1⅝ by 2-9/16. Group 6: Peters Target, 1-9/16 by 1-9/16. Group 7: Peters High Velocity, 1-5/16 by 2-9/16. Group 8: Winchester Super Speed, 1⅛ by 2.

Group 6 shows the most uniform pattern and tightness of all the groups in target 2. Disregarding the one flyer to the left, this group would really be exceptional. However, group 1 is the smallest overall. This pistol seems to handle most brands of ammunition quite the same generally.

Target 3: In an effort to squeeze the last drop of accuracy out of the regular Woodsman the machine rest was worked into and staked to the ground for firing Target 3. Group 1: Western Xpert, ⅞ inch horizontal by 3-3/16 inches vertical. Group 2: Remington Hi-Speed Kleanbore, 1-11/16 by 1⅞. Group 3: Peters Target, 1½ by 2.

Target 3, along with earlier experiences, led to the conclusion that my sturdy table couldn't be improved upon for steadiness and for getting the tightest groups possible. All groups are shaped differently regardless of the gun, ammunition, or rest support. These do not seem to present any improvement over the groups obtained with the rest firmly bedded on a steady table.

Target 4: A brand new 1947 S. & W. Masterpiece was used for this target. Group 1: Western, 1-7/16 inch horizontal by 1-9/16 inch vertical. Group 2: Western Xpert, 2-15/16 by 3-3/16. Group 3: Western Super-X, 2-15/16 by 3¼. One flyer out of the ring and high right. Group 4: Western Super-X (only nine shots fired), 1-9/16 by 1⅞. Group 5: This is not a representative group. It consists of some snafu sighter attempts to adjust the elevation for Group 6. Group 6: Remington Hi-Speed Kleanbore, 1⅝ by 2¾. Group 7: Remington Kleanbore, 1-15/16 by 2-3/16. Group 8: Peters Target, 1¾ by 1-9/16. Group 9: Winchester Super Speed, 1⅞ by 2¾.

The accuracy of this pistol did not come up to the performance shown by most of the automatics. One noticeable peculiarity is that it handled the old Western ammunition better than any of the others, while practically all the other pistols failed to produce good groups with this cartridge.

Target 5 was made with a Hi-Standard Model C in the short caliber, purchased new in 1938. Group 1: Remington Hi-Skor Kleanbore, 1¾ inch horizontal by 2-13/16 inches vertical. Group 2: Winchester Leader, 2⅜ by 2-13/16. Group 3: Peters High Velocity, 2-5/16 by 3-9/16. Group 4: Remington Hi-Speed Kleanbore, 1⅞ by 2⅛. Group 5: Remington Hi-Speed Kleanbore (11 shots fired), 1⅞ by 2-3/16.

The excellent performance of the .22 short is meat for thought. Its accuracy seems to be entirely adequate for fifty-yard target shooting. This pistol handled both the Remington regular and high-speed ammunition about equally well.

Target 6 was fired with a Hi-Standard Model B .22 long rifle automatic pistol. The gun was purchased new in 1947. Group 1: Western, 1-7/16 inch horizontal by 1-15/16 inches vertical. Group 2: Western Xpert, 15/16 by 1. Group 3: Western Xpert, 13/16 by 1½. Group 4: Western (rapid fire), ⅝ by 1⅜. Group 5: Western Super-X (rapid fire), 1-3/16 by 1-9/16. Group 6: Remington Kleanbore (rapid fire), 1 by ⅞. Group 7: Remington Kleanbore, 13/16 by 1-9/16. Group 8: Peters Target (rapid fire), 1-3/16 by 1-15/16. Group 9: Remington Hi-Speed Kleanbore, 1⅛ by 1½. Group 10: Remington Hi-Speed Kleanbore, 1¼ by 1-13/16.

The groups on target 6 seem to indicate the best all-around performance of any gun and ammunition combination in this particular test. A comparison of groups 1 and 4 indicates, as have other tests at different times, that there may be some advantage in warming the barrel. Another interesting observation is the tightening of group 3 over group 2 with the same ammunition. In addition to increase in barrel warmth, group 3 has the added feature of having been fired at a faster rate than group 2, approximately rapid fire—about 20 seconds for the full clip of ten shots. Isn't that a beautiful group? 8 out of 10 shots in group 3? It may have been an accident but for my money this represents a real combination.

Target 7 was made with a Colt .22-caliber Officer's Model. This pistol was purchased new in 1942. Group 1: Western, 1⅛ inch horizontal by 2 inches vertical. Group 2: Western Xpert, ⅞ by 2½. Group 3: Western Super-X. This is not too representative as one of the bullets shot away the string that held the top of the target. However, the 9 shots circle measure 2-1/16 by ⅝. Group 4: *(Continued on page*

OLYMPIC SQUAD SAILS

TWELVE-MAN SQUAD SELECTED AT QUANTICO FINALS TO COMPETE FOR WORLD SHOOTING TITLES IN LONDON GAMES

XIV LONDON 1948

ALREADY THE OLYMPICS have turned up thrills new to most of this generation of shooters . . . the tense atmosphere and unfamiliar requirements of international competition had most of the country's best marksmen jockeying frantically for places on the twelve-man squad which will represent the United States at the Olympics in London this month. All told, 75 rifle- and pistolmen competed in the July 10-11 finals on the Marine Corps Range at Quantico, Virginia. Much of that tension stemmed from the cut-and-dried manner of selection. No "considerations" . . . no "opinions of judges" . . . just shooting. The top three scores in each class made the team, regardless. That was that.

Swanson

Preliminary tryouts had been held across the country . . . to determine interest in international shooting events (which proved to be enormous) . . . and to be used as a basis for invitations to the last-ditch finals at Quantico. And last ditch they were . . . *come prepared* was the warning. Once sure of a berth on the team, it was practically on the boat and away. No chance to go home for an extra shirt or that forgotten box of ammo . . . although two shooters did manage to slip home between finals and sailing time.

Hotly contested were places on the three-man smallbore squad . . . hundreds of entries in the preliminary tryouts, and thirty-seven invitations to the Quantico finals . . . which meant that most of the nation's top smallborers were on hand for the final scrap. Thirteen slow-fire pistoleers was no surprise . . . but free rifle, long neglected stepchild of American shooting, unexpectedly turned out nine contenders . . . and rapid-fire pistol (on the tricky Olympic targets) drew sixteen finalists.

Parsons

NRA's shooting president, Doc Emmett Swanson of Minneapolis, was the first winner to show up. Sunday afternoon when the final scores began to trickle in, free rifle was first on the bulletin board . . . Swanson with 2085 (twice over the course with a twenty-year-old gun) . . . Frank Parsons, NRA Director and like dentist Swanson a veteran of International matches of two decades ago, second with 2072. Coincidence . . . Swanson and Parsons fired side by side on the same range 18 years ago for places on an international team . . . and both made it.

Jackson

You staid old smallborers should have seen that free-rifle equipment Swanson and Parsons toted. Thirty-one inch barrels, .30-'06 single shots . . . nearly 20 pounds . . . fancy stocks with curlycues and Swiss butt plates . . . set triggers . . . palm rest . . . That's what they mean by free rifle. You're free to use any gadget that strikes your fancy. Only restrictions on free rifles . . . safety, caliber, and no 'scope.

Swanson and Parsons should safely squash the idea that shooting can't be an old man's game. Parsons started in 1919 and Swanson only four years later. Swanson has already held world championships for kneeling and prone. One of them, chalked up in 1930, still stands. And for the record, both were shooting 18 and 20 year-old ammunition, too.

Layton

Behind that open-and-shut victory of Parsons and Swanson, the real fight was going on for third spot on the free-rifle squad . . . Brooklyn's Arthur Jackson and Bob Sandager of Minneapolis tied after the first day's shooting, 1006 apiece . . . and they don't need X's for that kind of course: forty shots prone, the same kneeling, and forty more standing. Jackson picked up an eight-point lead on Sunday to clinch the third place berth, 2064 against Sandager's 2056 . . . and did it with a Winchester 70 bullgun with home-loaded .30-'06 ammunition.

Roettinger

Things we will always remember . . . Frank Parsons, utterly tired out after the second day of shooting, but managing a man-sized grin when he got the good word. And the oppressive blanket of heat that hung over the Marine Corps range. Talk about pressure . . . London should be easy after that.

Rapid-fire pistol was a toughy for the "younger generation." Sixteen finalists punching away for two days on bobbing targets . . . shooting strings of five shots in eight seconds . . . then six . . . finally four seconds. Not unexpected was victory for John Layton, D. C. Police Department pistolman and one of two who managed a perfect string of 240 hits. His point total on the tricky bobbers . . . 2243. Those Olympic bobbers, incidentally, are about man-sized and swing on a vertical axis . . . no chance to sneak a late one in after the time limit. Crowding Layton and landing in second place . . . Marine combat veteran Phil Roettinger, with another perfect record of hits and point total of 2241.

Chow

Brooks

Like the free-rifle finals, pressure was strongest for third-place berth on the rapid-fire pistol squad . . . and last shots decided the issue. Two most likely contenders: Jack Ahern of San Francisco Police Department and Bob Mansell, US Park Police. Mansell and Ahern were even . . . no misses . . . as they went into the last string of five shots. Time limit, four seconds. You could tell as the targets swung away that each had been a little late getting that last shot off . . . and each missed, to break their perfect record. That meant a three-way tie between Mansell, Ahern, and San Francisco's Bob Chow. When third position was figured among those with 239 hits for the two-days of shooting, Chow walked away with a 2226 point total against Mansell's 2210 and Ahern's 2203.

(Continued on page 46)

MISER'S MAGNUM

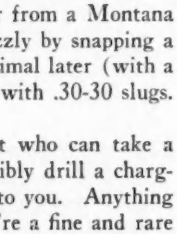
By WILLIAM CORSON

FOR ABOUT THIRTY BUCKS YOU CAN HAVE THAT MAGNUM FOR THE BIG FALL HUNT. IT'S NOBODY'S "DREAM GUN," BUT, PERFORMANCE-WISE, IT WILL BRING HOME THE VENISON

IT SEEMS TO ME there is one very fair but seldom-heard criterion that might be used in deciding what constitutes a satisfactory big-game caliber. Is it the weapon you would choose if the game were likely to kill you if you did not do the killing first?

Maybe if we thought of that test of killing power there'd be some switches of gun choice. My money says that the usual guy who cheerfully gnaws away at a hapless moose with his .30-30 would scream with horror at any suggestion that he carry that caliber against lion or tiger or Cape buffalo, yet they are smaller than moose!

So there's the test. If the power of your gun would worry you seriously if your tough game were likely to run *at you* instead of away from you, then possibly you aren't using an efficient and merciful caliber. You aren't giving a square shake to those animals which might take a fair hit from your particular rifle and still run long distances. They're the ones every ranger finds so often, that have escaped and died miserably in the brush. Bluntly, maybe you're being callous because you aren't risking your own skin. I suspect that bravery of that species accounts for most of the .32 Special and .30-30 propaganda that is sprayed around in our sporting magazines, so far as big game is concerned.



However, every now and then that type of callousness backfires. I'm reminded of a letter last October from a Montana friend. A local sheepherder irritated a grizzly by snapping a .30-30 at him. When a ranger killed the animal later (with a .30-'06) he found the bear liberally flecked with .30-30 slugs. But by then the sheepherder was buried.

Of course, if you are the kind of expert who can take a rimfire or your trusty old .30-30 and infallibly drill a charging grizzly in the eye, none of this applies to you. Anything from a cross-bow up will do for you. You're a fine and rare type. Chewing over such thoughts as these, a man begins to wonder just what he can carry that has adequate smash for the run of American big game, yet doesn't cause an even worse exit wound in the pocketbook.

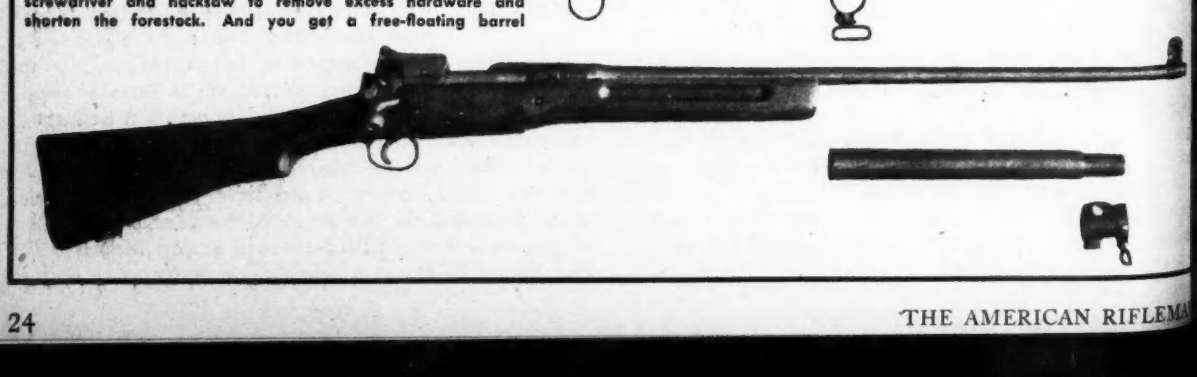
Probably the first thing that comes to mind is the old reliable .30-'06, which has been available to NRA members through the DCM for peanuts. Yet that old standby has vociferous detractors. Even medium deer have been known to soak up several '06 slugs and still make a jet-propelled exit as fragile as the little animals are. The evidence to that effect is unimpeachable, I'm afraid. And reports of unsatisfactory '06 killings on bigger game are convincing and plentiful.

So that brings us face to face with the magnums, a prospect that is financially brutal over the store counter. Lots of us would like to own a flossy super-duper magnum, but . . . the cost! You can have an issue Enfield or Springfield chambered to handle the powerful .300 Holland & Holland Magnum cartridge, but that process is very much frowned upon by conservative gunsmiths, who maintain correctly that the barrel may be seriously weakened in the process, and that the considerable slicing-up of the action that is needed to make it long enough for the big case does no one any good except the guy who is paid for it. Then there's the added expense of altering the magazine to feed the long .300 hulls. Not a good solution.

So then we shrug and have to decide that the plain old .30-'06 is the best thing we have available. Or do we?

Last winter I got word from Ray Moss in Utah that he was peeved about the way his .300 Magnum was mangling cases after a couple of reloadings. He went on to say that he thought he had run across something that would do as well in much cheaper and simpler form. He'd had an issue Enfield chamber opened up a little to take a cartridge known as the Ackley Improved .30-'06, and he said it looked awfully good.

The thing that attracted me as solid evidence of power was the steel penetration the caliber gave. Ray and some friends had poked GI 150-grain M2 loads through a standard '06



If you're not worried about appearances, five minutes is enough for a remodeling job! Corson used nothing but a screwdriver and hacksaw to remove excess hardware and shorten the forestock. And you get a free-floating barrel

a piece of ½-inch armor plate, making only smears. Then they swung on it with a .300 Magnum with factory-loaded 180-grain bullets and the plate was barely nicked. Tough plate. So Ray loaded some 180-grain bullets into his Improved '06 ahead of 60, 61 and 62 grains of 4350 powder. Even the 60-grain load punched holes through the plate with apparent ease. So did the .300 Magnum, after hand-loading 67 grains of 4350 behind the 180-grain bullet when factory loadings had failed.

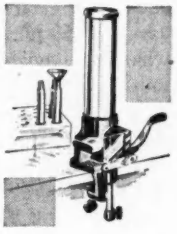
I dug into my files and found that this improved caliber had been briefly reviewed in the Dope Bag years ago, but not with enough detail for my purposes, so I started asking questions.

To my surprise, everyone who knew anything about the Improved '06 breed had only the highest praise for it. I never heard such a unanimously favorable report on any other caliber. C. M. O'Neil of Duplexing fame sent me a sample case of his own version and said it was the nicest .30-caliber he had ever worked with. P. O. Ackley said it was one of the few semi-wildcats that he could recommend highly. Similar opinions came in from others, both gunsmiths and non-professionals.

I found that C. G. Moffat, the gunsmith and bullet maker, had a reamer for the Ackley Improved '06, and had experimented with it and also thought it a fine caliber. So I dragged out my issue Enfield, Mr. Moffat gave record service in chambering it, and I set to work to find out what the score was.

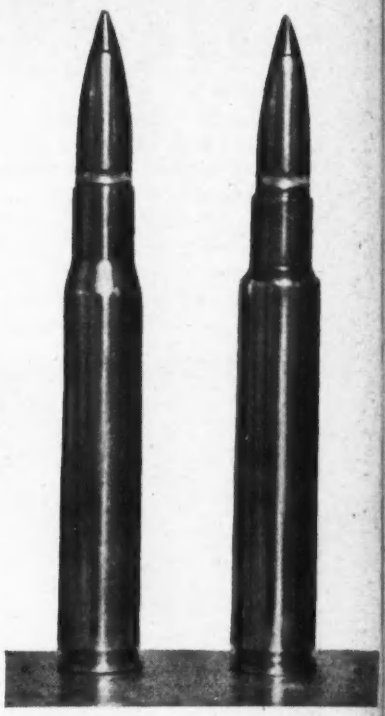
First, the chambering. The Improved '06 is simply an expanded .30-'06 case with a sharp shoulder and very little body taper. The reshaped case is obtained by firing any standard '06 case or load in the Improved chamber, and out comes your case, blown out to a perfect fit.

In an absolutely minimum Enfield chamber, it might be possible to ream out the chamber to the bigger case size with no more ado, but in most instances this seems extremely undesirable. After the change-over, the long sloping shoulders of unformed '06 cases contact only the front end of the chamber on a single sharp ring at the base of the neck, and cases in a loose-fitting chamber could easily be driven forward by the blow of the firing pin and the thrust of the primer explosion, creating dangerous excess headspace. A safe job involves cutting a turn off the threads and setting the barrel back 0.1-inch. Then the new chamber can be headspaced to a 'crush' fit on unformed cases, insuring against unwanted headspace. Properly cut, the new chamber will not accept and close on a standard *minimum* headspace guage. That may make you use a little more effort to close the bolt on unformed cases, but it is well worth it in extra safety.



The next item was a 5-minute conversion job on the issue stock. A screwdriver is all that's needed to remove the excess hardware and lumber on the prow of the beast, after which you take a saw to the fore-end to get a decent length. Easiest way to get the metal bands off the barrel is to tap out the lock-pin and slide the front sight clear off. You end up with no thing of beauty, but at least it is perfectly utilitarian. The barrel is full-floating in this deal, and sometimes guns shoot best that way. It's easy to slab some Plastic Wood into the extra space if tighter bedding is desired.

No further metal work is really necessary, for the bed-rock job. I find that the Improved '06 loads feed through my unaltered magazine satisfactorily, though I've been told that sometimes a bit of reshaping is helpful. The trigger will be usable as is, though if you don't like the two-stage pull, the handiest and most economical way out that I've found is Viggo Miller's neat little trigger attachment, which snugs things up to a clean single-stage pull.



If you want to call it by its proper name, the miser's magnum is the "Ackley Improved .30-'06." That's a standard '06 cartridge on the left. As you can see, Ackley has modified the case by moving the shoulder and reshaping it so that it will hold more powder

As to sights, the issue equipment is entirely adequate for planting slugs in big game. Sure, a nice receiver sight or scope would be better, but remember, we're keeping this job economical. I finally put a target scope on my gun to check accuracy and trajectory, but it ain't necessary for filling the skillet.

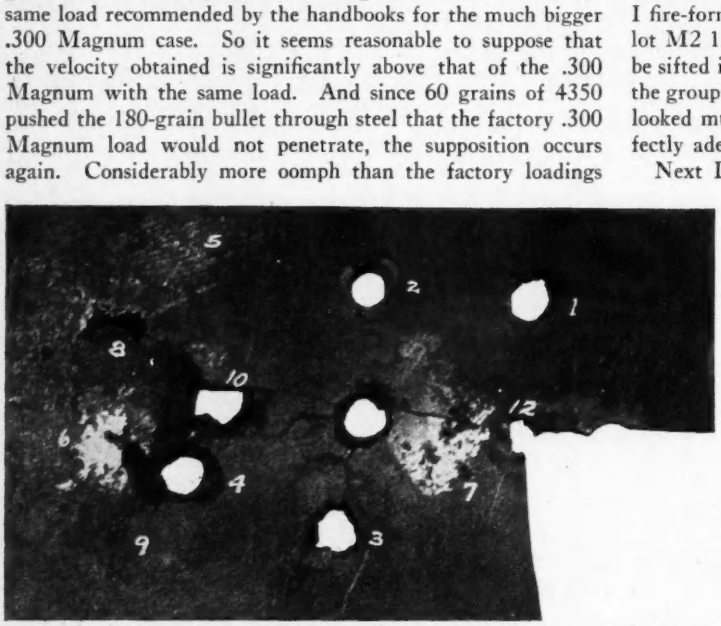
The Improved '06 demonstrates amazing tolerance for husky charges, though the actual increase in case capacity over the standard '06 is only about 4 grains. In my gun, the following seem to be what I'd call safe but near maximum, using arsenal brass and Remington 9½ primers:

Bullet (grains)	*Powder*	*Charge (grains)*
150	HiVel 2	57
"	4064	61
"	4895 (Lot 2191)	58.4
"	4350	66
180	4064	57.4
"	4350	61.4
220	4350	58.7

Be it noted that in reaching 'maximum' loads, I have tried to gun for loads which smelled like the 50- to 52-thousand-pound bracket, rather than the 55,000 pounds to which several of our high-intensity factory cartridges are loaded. Primer corners were well rounded and none of the loads gave even a trace of extraction tightness. They could probably be exceeded a bit by any cautious handloader without danger. But not for me. Using FA 70 primers produced no apparent lowering of pressures, in spite of the legend to that effect. It should also be noted that these loads were arrived at in a five-

land Enfield barrel, arsenal groove specification around .310. In other and smaller barrels, these loads may be impracticably warm. The Springfield barrel is actually 0.001 *looser*, by the way, believe it or not.

Comes the velocity question. It will be seen that the 57-grain load of 4064 behind the 180-grain bullet is about the same load recommended by the handbooks for the much bigger .300 Magnum case. So it seems reasonable to suppose that the velocity obtained is significantly above that of the .300 Magnum with the same load. And since 60 grains of 4350 pushed the 180-grain bullet through steel that the factory .300 Magnum load would not penetrate, the supposition occurs again. Considerably more oomph than the factory loadings for the .30 Newton is thus indicated. Mr. P. O. Ackley sent me the following chronographed results on his own test gun, stating that no effort had been made to reach maximum pressures, and that only the load marked with an asterisk showed pressure signs. Why higher pressure with lighter bullet? I can't say, but it sometimes happens.



Here's evidence of power. Ray Moss shot 180-grain bullets from his Improved '06 through this plate with loads of 63, 62, 61, and 60 grains of 4350 powder (holes 1, 2, 3, and 4) after 150-grain M2 service loads had failed at 5, 6, and 7. The .300 Magnum with 180-grain loads failed at 8 and 9, then penetrated at 10, 11, and 12 with hot handloads

Bullet (gr.)	*Powder*	*Charge (gr.)*	*Velocity (f.s.)*
*110	*HiVel 2	*60	*3728
125	"	60	3553
150	4064	57	3041
"	HiVel 2	56	3201
"	"	57	3286
"	"	58	3326
180	4350	60.5	2940
225	"	50	2420
"	"	53	2471

These loads were run with controls of standard factory loads, so they are believed reasonably accurate. At the same time, factory 180-grain '06 cartridges were fired in the Improved chamber, and they averaged 2649 feet per second. Two M2 military loads averaged 2754 feet. This seems to indicate that standard '06 loads fired in the Improved chamber lose very little velocity. I suspect that a couple of the above results are on the conservative side, and at least one load looks too warm for comfort in my gun. Those loads with the 225-grain bullet are extremely mild, and I really believe my 58 grains of 4350 powder with the hefty 220-grain slug must be reaching around 2600 feet per second. That, for my money, is an *adequate* big-game load!

I should specify that the chamber in my gun is not cut w any free-boring of the lands. I see no slightest sense in red ing pressures and velocities by free-boring and then pour a lot more coal onto the fire in a vain effort to regain velocity, with the certain result of accelerating erosion.

Accuracy, now. Right after I got the gun in shape to sho I fire-formed some cases, then loaded up 10 rounds of mix lot M2 150-grain bullets with 65 grains of 4350, which m be sifted in slowly to get that much in the case. At 100 yar the group was 3.1 inches with seven shots in 1.4 inches. Prim looked much milder than in factory .220 or .270 loads. P fectly adequate big-game accuracy.

Next I put one narrow band of Plastic Wood under t floating barrel, about two-thirds of the way o the fore-end, and fired five rounds of 180-gr Bronze Points ahead of 60 grains of 4350. T group was 2.3 inches, mainly lateral dispersi Again satisfactory accuracy from an issue barr issue stock, and unselected load. It could u doubtedly be improved by experiment, but r member that these are powerful hunting loa not target stuff. I paid no more attention to a curacy, since it would establish nothing oth than the behavior of one rifle, and the next o might be twice as good or bad.

I then ran the gun over the 400-yard cour to check the trajectories by impacts at the di ferent ranges. I found with little surprise th bullets at .300 Magnum velocities behave almo exactly like .300 Magnum loads are scheduled behave. No point in going into that any furth except to comment that it's much flatter than a standard '06 load, and should help greatly in ma ing long-range hits.

But back to the expense item. The real beauty of this ca ber is that it is a true miser's magnum from the cost stan point. Original cost from the DCM (back in the good o days), $7.50 plus packing and shipping. I asked Mr. Mof what he thought might be a more-or-less standard g smith's fee for the chambering job, and he estimated th it would be around $17.00 in most areas. That bri you up to $30 or less. Invest a little tinkering with the st or just leave the doggone thing the way it left the arsen and you're ready to go hunting. A set of reloading dies w likely run you $15, Moffat said, or you can have your o '06 dies recut for around $7.50.

If you're willing to sacrifice a fe cases for the big hunt where you want magnum power, you can just k your old dies and pour full Improv loads into standard unformed cases, f them without qualms, and throw aw the expanded cases. Your accura may be better or worse than with formed cases, or just t same.

Maybe you'll want to send your Improved dies to a custo hand-loading firm and just forget about that chore. I sound out J. B. Smith, and he said as soon as he had dies, he'd relo your hopped-up cases for his standard '06 fee, and I imagi others would do the same.

Sure, there's the hitch with this caliber that you can't ju plank down your money and buy factory .300 ammo when yo want power, but then what .300 Magnum can use the cheap factory and government '06 ammo when you *don't* want th much power? It's a standoff. *(Continued on page 4*

WE BOW TO THE INEVITABLE

RISING PRODUCTION COSTS FORCE INCREASE IN ASSOCIATION DUES

On January 1, 1927, the price of an NRA annual membership and subscription to The American Rifleman was reduced from $4 to $3 a year. A few years later a further reduction to $5 for two-year memberships was placed in effect. Shortly thereafter, club affiliation fees were abolished for clubs whose active members were all individual members of the NRA, and the annual membership fee for such club members was reduced to $2.50. Now, 40 percent of all annual members come within the $2.50 a year group, so that average income per member to the Association is $2.80 a year as compared with the $4 rate which prevailed in 1926.

In the meantime the average number of pages in The American Rifleman has tripled, increasing from 32 to 96 pages. The junior program has been developed. The police pistol-training program, largely responsible for the development of the present nation-wide interest in pistol target shooting, has been promoted. The nation-wide campaign for federal and state anti-firearms legislation (virtually non-existent prior to the '20's) has been successfully combatted on a multitude of fronts. The registered tournament and national classification programs, with their attendant requirements for special office machinery, special files and additional personnel, have been established. Field offices, each costing $10,000 to $12,000 a year, have been established to better the NRA's service to clubs and tournaments. Range construction plans, club organization manuals, basic small-arms instruction manuals, instruction films, none of which existed in 1926, have been prepared and distributed.

While the average cost of membership has declined 33 1/3 percent, the cost of everything used by the Association in servicing its members has increased 150 to 250 percent. Unfortunately, costs are still rising.

Until now it has been possible to meet rising costs and the expenses of expanded services by improved efficiency of operation, by increased use of modern office machinery, by cancelling desirable but not essential advertising and extension programs, and by increasing the rates paid by those who advertise in The American Rifleman. The apparent leveling off in the rising spiral of wages and prices which seemed evident during the past spring gave hope that we would be able to continue to make ends meet until costs declined a bit. The current "third round" of wage increases and the resumption of price rises have blasted those hopes.

At its meeting on June 19th the NRA's Executive Committee bowed to the inevitable and adopted the following schedule of individual membership rates, effective October 1, 1948.

One Year Annual Membership	$4
Two Year Annual Membership	$7
Three Year Annual Membership	$10
Class "A" Club Annual Membership	$3

Corresponding increases will be made in foreign subscriptions, subscriptions received through agencies, and junior subscriptions. With these changes the Association returns to the one-year individual rate which prevailed prior to 1927. Two- and three-year rates and the rate for individual membership through affiliated Class "A" clubs remain lower than the 1926 rate so that the *average* income per member will be lower than the rate prevailing twenty-two years ago. The size of The American Rifleman will be tripled over 1926 and the scope of the Association's services to its members will continue to be immeasurably increased over that offered the shooters of a generation ago. We do not believe any association or any business organization can point to as good a record.

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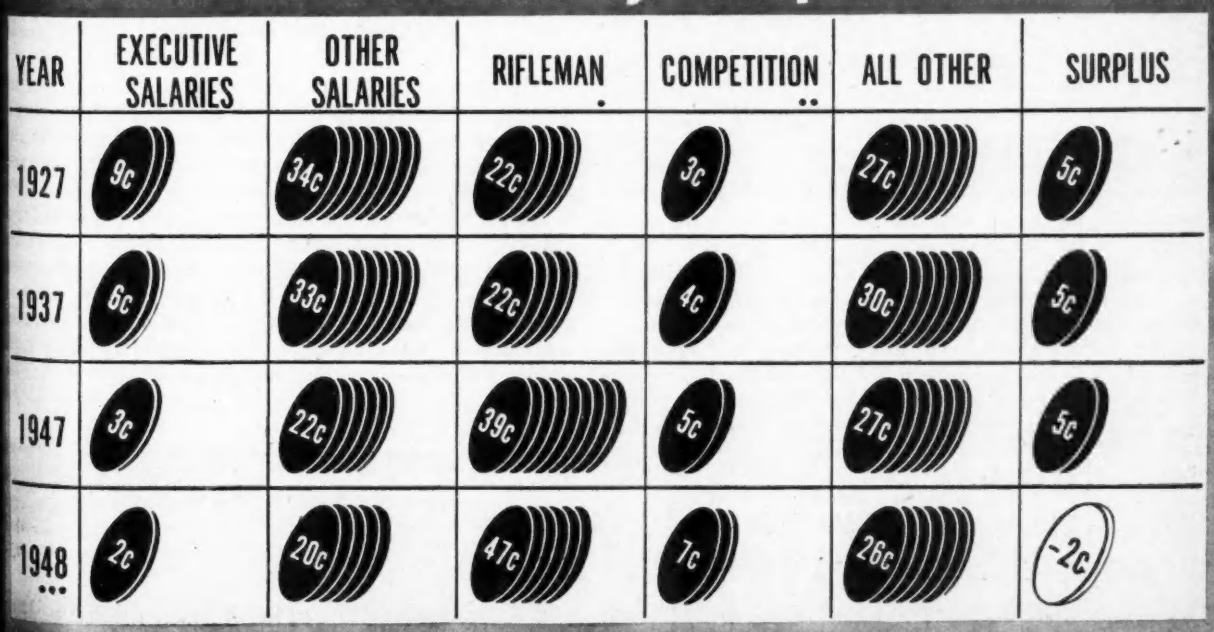
How each $1 of income was used on basis of major expense items



DCM TREASURE

By T. B. GRESHAM

"READY ON THE FIRING LINE! Flag waving! Flag down!" Here we go for the second stage, rapid fire, on the building of a Springfield sporter. You have decided that you want a stock on your sporter that looks and fits better than the one described in the first article of this series, that you can spend more for sights and tools, and that you can do more work than was required for that 'minimum sporter.'

1. Saw off the stock half an inch forward of the swivel band. Now you'll have to get rid of those ugly and useless grasping grooves on the sides of the stock. To do it right, you'll have to do a little jig and fixture work. Don't take one look at the picture and shy off. They used to say around the tool shops that any damn fool could run a machine after you made the set-up for him. Get a smooth, unwarped piece of one-inch plank and cut off two pieces 14 inches long, one of these eight inches wide and the other four. Check to be sure that the wider piece has absolutely square ends and that the sides are parallel. Nail narrow piece (A) to wide piece (B), as shown.

Use scrap pieces of wood (F) to hold the stock even with the top of (A). Clamp the stock to (A) with C-clamps (D and E). Better put a couple of pieces of wood under the screws of the C-clamps to keep them from biting into the bottom of the stock. Be sure that supports (F) hold the stock solidly.

Clamp a block of wood (G)—any smooth piece of 2x2—to the drill press table as a router guide. Adjust it so that when jig (AB) is placed against it, the router bit (H) will just cut out the top of the grasping groove. The router bit (or two-lip end mill) may be of almost any size up to ¾-inch. This last is the best because you can get the whole grasping groove without readjusting the router guide (G).

Clamp stop blocks (I and J) to the guide (G) so that when you slide the jig (AB) back and forth the router (H) will just take in the ends of the grasping grooves. Set the depth stop for a very light first cut. Start in with the jig against the left hand stop and move it to the right. It might be good to get an assistant to start the motor and feed the bit in and lock it so that you can hold the jig with both hands. Take successive light cuts until you are almost at the bottom of the grasping groove. If you used the ¾-inch router, you are done. If not, move the guide (G) over and get rid of the rest of the grasping groove. Don't make the cuts a deeper than you have to. You don't have to get all the w to the bottom of the grasping groove, and if you try it y may break into the barrel channel. Turn the stock over the jig and repeat the operation on the other side.

If you used the ¾-inch router, leave the ends of the groov as they are. If you used the smaller bit, square up the en of the grooves with a small, sharp chisel. Saw out two stri of wood about ⅜-inch thick, just a little too large in all d mensions for the grooves. Plane and sand to a tight fit. may help if you cut out some ¾-inch paper circles and pas them to the ends of the strips for the round end slots aft you have gotten the strips down to the exact length. Now resting each piece on a thin piece of wood on your drill pre table, sand it down to the paper circle with a small sandin drum or rotary file.

Drill three ⅛-inch holes through the bottom of the groov in the stock to let out any surplus glue. Mix Casco Case Glue as directed on the can. And I mean as directed! The are probably other glues as good or better, but I've had goo luck with this one. Coat blocks and grooves with glue, pre blocks into place and clamp. That takes care of the groove

2. Now for the buttstock. From a point 1⅞-inch back the top tang, saw ¼-inch straight down into the stock. Fro the bottom of this saw-cut, draw a line straight back to point on the butt 2¼-inches from the toe. Saw out the top the stock along this line and saw off the end of the butt squar with this line. Take a look at the picture for the gener idea.

Clamp your stock to the router jig (AB) so that the lon saw cut is about even with the top of (A). Let the butt the stock extend half an inch beyond the end of (A) so th you can rout this, too, without changing the set-up. Set you router guide (G) across the table at right angles to the wa you used it when routing the grasping grooves. Set (G) s that you can rout from point (K) 1⅝-inch from the end the top tang to the butt. This cut should be ⅜-inch dee from the top of the grip at (K). Use the guides to make th cut across the stock at (K) and then rout off the top all th way back to (L). The jig is against the guide only whi making the crosswise cut at (K). Now, in order to cut th

PART TWO OF TOM GRESHAM'S "HOW TO DO IT"—BUILDING A MORTISED-AND-INLAID SPRINGFIELD SPORTER

end of the stock at (L) parallel to the shoulder at (K), clamp a temporary guide against the long side of (AB) while holding the short side against the regular guide (G). Loosen the clamps on (G) and move it down until the router bit will just square up the end of the stock at (L). Holding the long side of the jig against the temporary guide, reclamp (G) against the end. Now rout off the end of the stock. If you did it right it has just got to be square with that shoulder up at the grip and all square with the top cut.

Rough out block (M) with the grain running the same direction as that in the remainder of the stock. Finish it for angles and fit by setting it up in the router jig just as you did the stock.

Turn the stock over and clamp to the jig. Starting 3/8-inch from the end of the lower tang, rout out a slot 3/8-inch deep and 3½-inches long for the pistol grip block. Square the ends and bottom of this slot just as you did for the top part of the stock. Fit block (N) tightly into this slot. Drill through at (O) for a temporary screw all the way into (M) and drill at (P) for another temporary screw. Be sure that the holes for these screws are under the future position of the grip cap and butt plate. Mix glue as before and use screws and clamps to hold blocks in place while the glue sets. After final shaping, countersink and replace these screws.

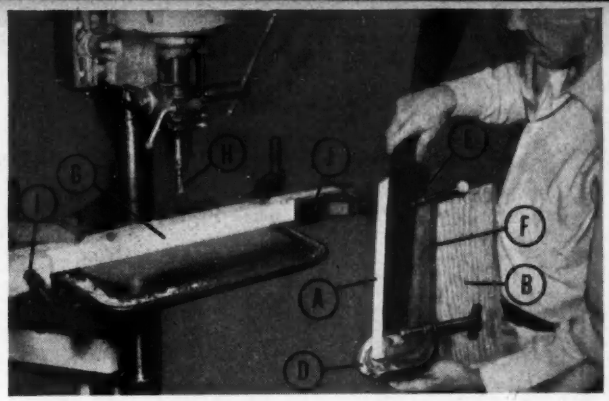
3. Fit barrel, action, and trigger guard into place and tighten up the guard screws. Knock the primer out of a fired cartridge and drill out the head of the cartridge to take a convenient piece of drill rod or cleaning rod. Check the rod for straightness. Put the rod through the cartridge and put a patch on the front end of the rod. Put the patch up into the barrel and shove the cartridge up into the chamber. Push the rod in until the rear end of it is just over the butt. Mark a point on the rod directly above the trigger. Then, from a point on the rod 2¾-inches back of that mark, drop a vertical line 4⅜-inches to (Q) and mark. This will be the front corner of the pistol grip. Then, 3½-inches from the mark above the trigger, drop another vertical line 5/8-inch below the center of the rod to (R) and mark. This is the front and top of the comb.

For the top of the heel of the butt go back along your rod 13¾-inches from the trigger mark and drop a line 1¾-inches to (S). Draw line (RS).

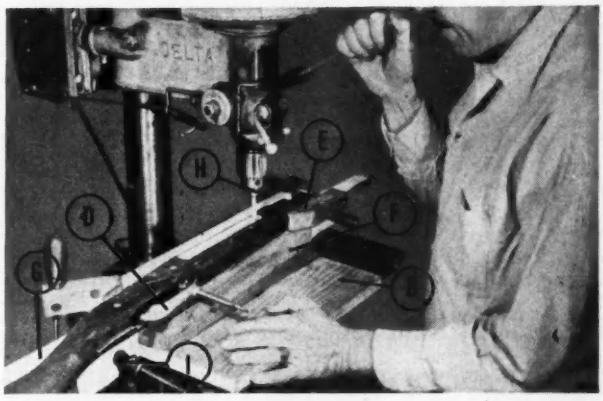
At right angles to (RS) draw (ST). (T) is the toe of the stock and is 5⅛-inches from (S). From (T) draw a line to (U) at the rear of the lower tang. This line (TU) marks the lower edge of the stock, exclusive of the pistol grip.

From (U) to (Q), the front edge of the pistol grip, sketch in the curve of the grip. At right angles to the central line of the rear part of this curve draw (QV). This gives you the line of the bottom of the pistol grip. Saw to these lines as close as you can without running over them. A band saw is a big help if you can get to one.

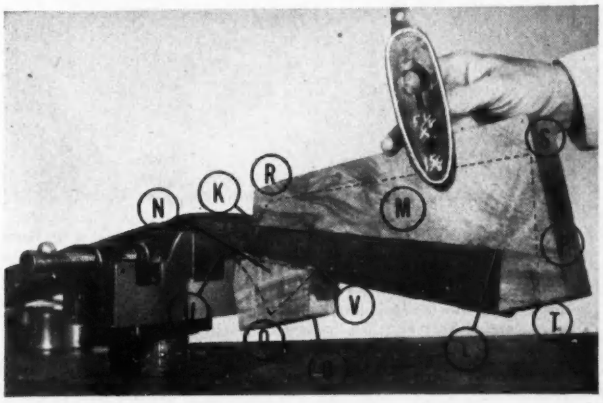
While the cleaning rod, patch, and cartridge rig are still in the bore, lay out a center line on the top of the stock. Remove the barrel and action and hold the stock, top down, on a flat surface. Use a square to carry the line up the butt to the toe. Then draw a line from this point along the bottom



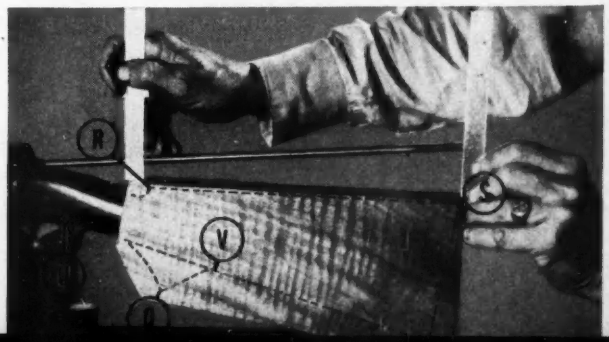
A drill press is essential for building the "mortised and inlaid" sporter described in this article. Here is the author's jig designed to simplify routing and filling of the ugly grasping grooves in the Springfield stock

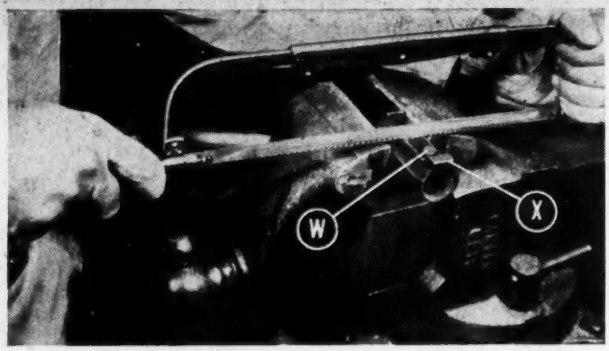


As shown here, the grasping grooves are deepened and the sides squared up in order to insert panels of wood. These are shown on the finished gun below. Round or square ends may be used, depending on one's equipment



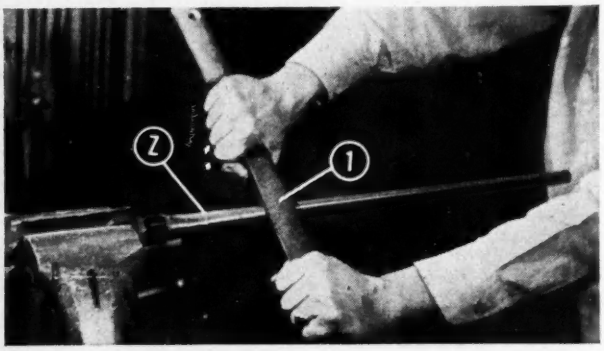
Above: Blocks of wood are mortised to form sporter stock. Below: Another method of remodeling Springfield, to be described next month. Photo shows use of cleaning rod in bore to lay out correct buttstock lines





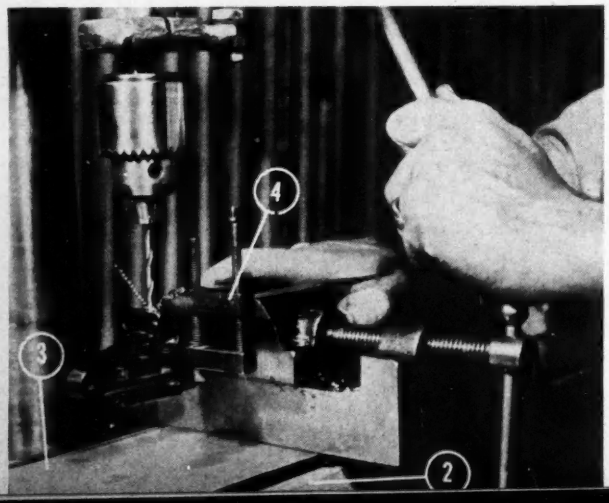
Rear sight fixed base is removed, shortened, and replaced upside down in the conversion described, in order to cover cuts in Springfield barrel

Unattractive swell on barrel can be removed by using flexible vixen file. For best results this file should be used at the angle shown in the photo



After dressing off most of metal with the vixen, use a twelve or fourteen inch mill file to draw file barrel. For final polish, use abrasive cloth

This set-up, with Yankee swivel-base vise on rectangle of plate glass, is recommended by author for accurate drilling and tapping for rear sights



of the stock, over the grip, to the center of the rear guard sc

This layout will give you a stock satisfactory for the a age man. If you aren't average you can alter length, he of comb, pitch and curve of the pistol grip to suit.

4. Buy a butt plate or rework the military plate. To the latter, remove the trap in the plate and heat the hoo over top part to a bright cherry red. Hammer it flat, rel ing as needed. Heat the whole plate a part at a time and shape with an even, slight curve similar to that on the W chester Model 70 plate. Go easy with your hamme around the hole for the trap in the plate. You may hav file this a little anyway, to get the trap to fit back in pl Saw and file to the dimensions shown in the picture and d another hole for the top screw.

Place the butt plate on the stock and mark the positi of the screw holes on the center line. Drill for the scr Fit your butt plate to the stock by cutting a little at a t using Prussian blue to show up the high spots. You'll s time and probably get a better fit if you gouge out the ce of the butt as you go along and fit to a 3/8-inch wide edge

If you want to dodge the whole issue, try cementing cents worth of corrugated rubber floor matting to the sha end of the butt instead of using a metal plate at all.

You'll get a better job with all types of butt plates if t are shaped and sanded down in place along with the f shaping and refinishing of the stock. Keep the sides, top bottom of your stock straight in a fore-and-aft direction clusive of the pistol grip. A stock is not the place for lusc swells and curves. The rest of the shaping of the stock matter of the coarse woodworking rasp and the var grades of sandpaper as described last month.

After finishing up the metal parts, as described later, in the gap around the barrel with Plastic Wood.

5. Now we'll tackle the barrel. Drive out the pin that h the front sight fixed base. You'll find it at the rear of sight and about on a level with the bottom of the dovetail the front-sight movable base. You may have to use s emery cloth on it before you can find the end of the Drive the front sight off forward with a wood or brass pu Drive out the pin in the underside, front end, of the rear-s fixed base. Hold barrel or action firmly in a vise and d forward against (W) or (X) with a heavy brass d When you get the rear sight off you're going to find one two nasty spline cuts in the top of the barrel. It might serious damage to your artistic soul to leave them there na and exposed. Saw off about the rear 1½-inches of the sight base and drive it back on the barrel bottom side Drill and tap the underside of this for one or two sc screws to hold the band in place. Keep your ten and your manhood under control when you're drilling hole, or holes, and don't make them more than 5/32-inch d Here, under the chamber, you're close to the fire and f of maximum pressures and you wouldn't want a couple screws blown through the bottom of that pretty stock.

File down the top and sides of the piece of rear sight t to a nice even taper for best appearance. Leave the bot alone. You can safely break down the 1/32-inch overh at the front corner of the receiver, but, at your peril, do carry the taper back more than ⅛ to ¼-inch. If you file any of the numbers or letters on the receiver, you have g too far.

At (Z) you will find on the barrel a sort of snake-t swallowed-the-frog swelling. In the photo I am usin flexible, medium-cut vixen file screwed to a regular vixen h to get rid of it. A piece of wood longer than the file ma

just as good a back and handle. Vixens are the files with curved teeth that automobile body men use, and they cut like nobody's business. They work well if you hold them at a sharp angle as shown and shove them back and forth. As with other files, they cut with the forward stroke only, so lighten up as you come back. After you have removed the signs of the 'indigestible frog' go over the whole barrel with the vixen to get rid of the circular tool marks. Never take two cuts in exactly the same place. Keep moving around the barrel. You don't want to leave any wide flats that would be hard to get rid of later.

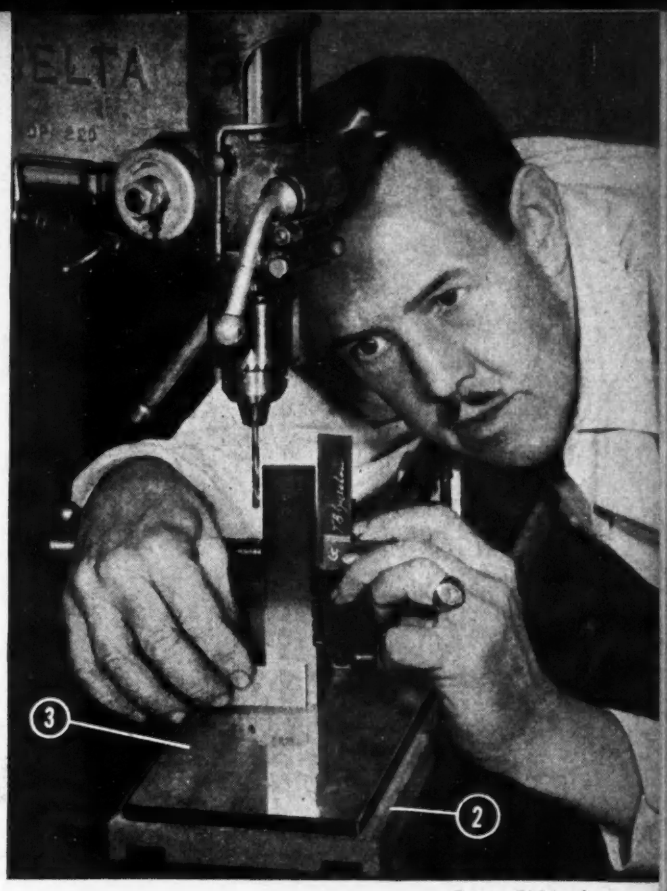
Now, hold a 12- or 14-inch mill file as shown (1) and draw file the whole barrel. That is, push and pull the file back and forth along the barrel, keeping your hands even with each other. Press down only hard enough to make the file cut, but don't be so delicate about it that the file just rubs over the surface without taking hold. I can't describe it exactly, but you'll soon get the feel of it.

Polish out the small flats left by your files with strips of coarse Metallite or Aloxite cloth used like a shoe-shine rag. No. 80 to No. 100 is about right to start with. Finish with finer and finer grades down to No. 320 or No. 400.

6. We'll leave scope sights for a later article and talk about iron sights now. If you want to save money on your front sight, you can retain the military fixed and movable bases and put in any of the following blades with a bead of the size and color that you like: King 28B, Redfield 21 or Lyman 26. If you want a much better-looking (but more expensive) sight, get the Redfield ramp. If you're going to do much target shooting or reloading, get the Redfield 100S or the Lyman 48S or 48C micrometer-type for your rear sight. Second choice would be the cheaper Redfield 70SH or 70ST. The SH has slotted knobs to be turned with a coin while the ST has knurled knobs to be turned with the fingers. The latter method is more convenient, but the former will foil the Sight-Fiddler—that most despicable of ruffians who will pick up your carefully-sighted-in rifle and give the knobs a twirl and never say a word about it. Last on the list is the very reasonably-priced Redfield 102S which must be adjusted with a screwdriver.

I'm going to take time out here and now to recommend the Yankee No. 1993 swivel-base vise. For regular work the swivel base is screwed to the bench. Loosen one screw and the top part comes off for use on the drill-press table. The jaws, base, and sides of this vise are all ground square and parallel where they should be.

Put a smooth, unwarped plank (2) on your drill press table. On this lay a piece of *plate* glass (3) 18 to 24 inches long. Clamp the receiver of your Springfield in the vise with the flat on the bottom against the fixed jaw of the vise. This is shown wrong in the drilling and clamping picture, in order to show the detail of the drilling and clamping. Hold up the barrel with some wood scrap so that the base of the vise rests flat on your glass surface plate without having to be held down. Adjust sight base to proper fore-and-aft position and square it up by eye. Clamp in place with dime-store parallel clamp (4) using fingers only to tighten the screws. Put the base of your combination square on the glass and the base of your small square on the sight base and check. Tap the sight base back and forth with a piece of wood or a small, soft hammer until you can see no light between the blades of the squares. (You'll note that in the picture I still have some stopping to do.) Tighten the clamp with the pliers and



Peyton Richmond

Receiver sights must be drilled and tapped accurately. All work should be done on drill press, and aligned by use of glass plate and squares as shown

check again with the squares to make sure that you didn't move the sight base when you tightened the screws. Select a drill that just fits the hole in the sight base. A No. 24 is about right for the Lyman 48. Drill in just enough to show a spot not quite the full size of the hole. Take the tap drill, and from this center drill on through. Run the drill slowly as the metal is tough. Use lard or some other cutting oil. Take the belt off the drill press and put your tap in the chuck. Feed the tap in with one hand and turn the chuck with the other using plenty of cutting oil. After the tap has started, turn forward about three-quarters of a turn and back it out about a half until the tap is all the way through. A tap held this way, perfectly in line, will usually slip in the chuck before it will break. Clean out the hole and turn its screw in tight to hold the base in place. Remove the clamp and proceed in the same fashion for the other hole.

7. The Dykem Co., 2307 North 11th Street, St. Louis 6, Mo., make a goozelum which they call Dykem Layout Black DXX-324. It sells for eighty-five cents for an eight-ounce can. Get a can of Dykem Remover to thin the mixture if necessary. This, in about ten minutes, will give you a smooth, dull-finish that looks a lot like a bluing job. It is impervious to oil and moderately durable. Clean all metal parts of your gun with solvent and dry thoroughly. Pour a little of the Dykem into a saucer and apply—but fast—to all metal parts of your gun, except the bolt, with a soft brush. The stuff dries like lightning and the secret of it is almost to flow it on and try to brush it out only if you have to.

8. Finish the stock as described last month.

9. Put the works together and go out and kill yourself a b'ar!

♦ ♦ ♦

Amazing Old Lady

By H. V. STENT

IT'S ODD THAT Canada's favorite moose-and-grizzly rifle of more than .30-30 power is not better known and better appreciated in the United States. To many experienced big-game hunters north of the border it is the pick of all cartridges for all-around hunting. Only this morning Ed Gould, dean of local hunters and target experts, remarked challengingly,

"You know, I'd sooner have this old .303 British of mine than a .270 Winchester!"

He wasn't kidding either. A year or so ago he sold a beautifully restocked .30-'06 Enfield with Weaver K2.5 scope to go back to his .303. Just as effective a cartridge, he claims, and a lot handier rifle. Seeing that quite a few rifles of the .303 caliber are found in the United States, and that many more may become cheaply available if Canada switches her armed forces from that .303 to the U.S. .30-'06, as is rumored, maybe Ed's claims are worth looking into.

The time is past when one could snort at the old .303 as an outmoded popgun. Its military and sporting loads always were about on a par with the .30-40 Krag, whose reputation as a game-killer needs no elaboration. American ammunition companies have been content to leave it at that, but Canada's Dominion Ammunition outfit started rejuvenating the old girl a few years ago with some rather amazing injections.

First they boosted the old 2440 foot-second velocity with a 174-grain bullet to around 2900 with a 150-grain. The patient survived and good reports came in, but the boys at the forks of the cricks were used to a heavier bullet. Dominion pepped up the old 215-grain soft-nose to a little over 2200. Then they got reckless and put out an entirely new 180-grain bullet in this caliber, at jazzed-up speeds. The latest figure gives the pointed 180-grain a velocity of 2545 feet per second, and the blunt-nosed pneumatic in the same weight 2610. And brother, that's no peashooter.

The .303's 2545 foot-seconds is so close to .30-'06 velocity that there is no observable difference in effect on game. Two of my hunting partners have used these .303 loads. They've c ried lighter, handier rifles than my .30-'06, and seemed to h fully as much persuasion at the business end.

The most unforgettable deer hunt I ever made, I think, w one November morning when Ken Blagborne with his .3 and I with my old .30-'06 started up Acland Mountain six a.m. to seek the elusive muley, after having danced— not the deer—til 3 a.m. the night before. It was dark a cold and our feet were leaden. By the time we topped t steep slope, they were heavier still.

We were sweating-hot, and the sun was magicking t snow-plastered pines and firs into a diamond-crusted Chri mas card. Snow was nearly knee-deep on top the slope. W ploughed through it blasphemously, dragging ourselves ov windfalls, seeing no game. Then we came to the edge o little hollow, and out of it shot a startled buck, boundi straight away. "Bang!" roared Ken's .303 without resu "Boom!" went my .30-'06 with equal success. Ever have t thrill of shooting fast at a running deer? Excited as a kid worked the action, was nearly deafened by another fruitl shot from Ken, and swung my sights ahead of the deer, no going broadside a hundred yards away at a speed little sh of supersonic. "Bang!" again as the deer cut into my line sight. And down he crashed, knocked off his feet by t Western 180-grain open-point through the lungs.

Why tell this in a yarn supposed to be about the .303? B cause, brother, while I was dragging that plump little tw point down the hill (ever drag a deer through the deep sn after an all-night dance?) Ken wandered off and shot himself buck the twin of mine, at much the same range, hitting it much the same place—with the same knockdown effect.

Another time I saw him smash a big buck's shoulder to pu with that .303. On still another occasion he blew the top a deer's heart—though it kept on going for 40 yards. B Barkwill wiped my eye on the only two bucks we saw last f with the same type rifle and cartridge. Ed Gould swea that the moose which fell to his .303 in 1944 was first hit 700 yards, and I've heard many a yarn of grizzly in t mountains and caribou in the northern barrens being kill very promptly with the .303 cartridge. Even with old .30- type loads it had range and power enough for shots up to and 500 yards, it seemed, yet lacked the excessive recoil a muzzle blast of cartridges like the .30-'06 and larger.

After all, the .303 has been used successfully all over t

world. Frederick Courtenay Selous, Sir Alfred E. Pease, Denis Lyell, and others used it in Africa, and Lt. Col. J. S. Hamilton with his .303 is credited with shooting more lions than any other African hunter. It has dropped plenty of elephants, rhino, tiger, and buffalo. Why shouldn't it be good for all North American big game?

At one time rifles for the cartridge were three in number. The old lever-action Winchester Model 95 was an excellent hunting arm, until the forced draft popularity of bolt actions after the first World War squeezed it out and Winchester stopped making it around 1936. Quite a few Ross .303's got into the United States and these weapons have many good points. I've had too many reports of accidents with the Ross, however, to either recommend them or use one myself. Remains only old grandma Lee-Enfield, first issued around sixty years ago, frequently revised, and, like Johnny Walker, still going strong.

In the original military form, as used by British and Canadian armies, the Lee-Enfield is a homely old wench, even among military rifles, and plenty of faults can be found with it. For one, when the British shortened it from the long barrel to the present 24.19-inch length, back about 1907, they went further in their search for handiness, and lightened the barrel considerably. As a result, it bends and bucks like a bad broncho under the stress of firing, and many a SMLE—the ordinary Short Magazine Lee-Enfield—will do no better than the 4½ minutes of angle accuracy requirement of the British government.

Target shooters in Britain and Canada have found that this weakness can be overcome by re-bedding the barrel. Properly bedded, the average SMLE will group within the 5-inch Bisley bull at 200 yards, which is about the same as the average Springfield or 1917 Enfield, and some will do considerably better. The cutting-away of the restraining wood and metal bands of the military model in making a sporter, together with a little attention to the fit of barrel in fore-end, also improves the shooting qualities of the military model. Ken's sporter too has made 5-inch groups at 200 yards and I've never heard any complaint of inaccuracy of a Lee-Enfield for sporting purposes.

Besides the light barrel, other apparent drawbacks of the military rifle are the two-piece stock, the locking lugs at the rear of the bolt instead of at the head, and the rimmed cartridge.

So much was made of these physical characteristics back forty-odd years ago, when Mausers and Springfields were all the style and everything different was sneered at, that grandma seemed a lot more out of date then than she does now. Even the family was ready to give her up, and about 1912 Britain designed a completely new rifle and cartridge. The new rifle's qualities have become well known in the United States in its .30-'06 version, the Model '17 Enfield. The British cartridge was a ballistically excellent one of the ideal .276 caliber. But the first World War broke out before Britain could build up a stock of .276 ammunition or rifles, and she had plenty of .303 stuff, so the new rifle was hastily converted to .303 caliber and given to Remington and Winchester to manufacture as the Pattern '14 or No. 3 rifle, while Britain herself went back to production of the No. 1 SMLE.

And the old gun surprised everybody. The absence of front bolt lugs and receiver recesses for them to lock in made the Lee-Enfield less prone to jam with dirt, more easy to clean out, than any of the more modern types. In the mud and dirt of the trenches the simple, sturdy Lee-Enfield stood more abuse and gave less trouble than any other military rifle. And its short bolt throw and smooth action hung up some amazing records for speed of fire.

Back in 1914 when the Germans were sweeping down on Paris, the British regulars opposing them shot so fast with their Lee-Enfields that the Jerries thought they had machine guns and hung back long enough to affect the entire later

course of the war. Later in that war British instructors demonstrated their ideas of rapid fire to wondering American troops with speeds up to 60 shots a minute.

Naturally Britain came out of the first World War pretty well satisfied with her military rifle—it had proven its worth for four strenuous years. Even the rimmed cartridge turned out to have its advantages, for the newer rimless types developed headspace troubles from which the old .303 was free; witness the modern trend to a belt around the cartridge case to serve the same purpose as a rim.

Instead of developing a different rifle, therefore, Britain set herself to improve the old one in the inter-war period, and by 1939 a new Mark of the SMLE—known as the Number 4 rifle—had appeared. The barrel of this is 6½ ounces heavier, the open sight is replaced by a peep on the receiver bridge

BRITAIN'S OLD .303 CARTRIDGE AND THE LEE-ENFIELD RIFLE MAKE A REAL WOODSMAN'S COMBINATION . . . ANOTHER IN THE RIFLEMAN'S SERIES ON FAVORITE CARTRIDGES

No. 4, Mark I Short Magazine Lee-Enfield

similar to the Model 1917, and the front sight has been moved farther back from the muzzle to permit use of a different type of bayonet. Widely used during the war—often in a hastily-produced version with two-groove barrel and fixed instead of adjustable sights—this is now the standard rifle of the British and Canadian armies. It is also the standard rifle of target shooters in the British NRA and the Canadian DCRA. In the mass it is a better shooting rifle than the SMLE. But a good specimen of the SMLE properly bedded, will still hold its own with the modern version in accuracy.

What about the possibilities of either as a sporter?

Judging from what I've seen of them, they are distinctly good. The Krag was always very popular in the United States as a hunting rifle. The Lee-Enfield is a stronger action, if anything even smoother and faster. It is lighter for the same barrel length, has a better magazine, and its cartridges, fully equal to the Krag in the old loadings, are far ahead of it in the latest Dominion loads.

The very points that used to be damned as weaknesses in the old Lee-Enfield become its strengths as a hunting rifle. The thin barrel makes it a delightfully lightweight rifle to carry in the woods all day when you have cut off the extra wood and metal work. The rearward locking lugs are plenty strong enough and give the bolt about 1¼ inches shorter travel and a third less turn than the Model 1917, which together with its smoothness makes it just about the handiest and quickest of all bolt actions to pump for the second shot.

Likewise the two-piece stock, though it may be startling to American riflemen on a bolt-action rifle, enormously simplifies restocking. In order to replace the horrible military handle with a decent high-comb pistol-grip stock, you need not do all the slow painstaking work of inletting a new fore-end. Leave on the old fore-end, cutting it down to taste, replace the butt stock only, and you can get your ideal stock dimensions with less than half the work required to replace a one-piece stock.

And the Lee magazine is in a class by itself. Sure, it projects, which makes it awkward for carrying. But this magazine removes at the touch of the catch in the trigger-guard. You can carry the rifle empty, light and comfortable in your hand, yet have a loaded magazine in your pocket ready to snap into place when you need it. It's the handiest of all types of hunting magazines, to my mind, and it holds ten shells instead of the usual five or six.

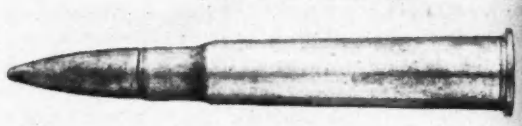
Accuracy in a cut-down Lee-Enfield compares with most hunting rifles and I've never heard any users complain. A bit of fussing about the bedding should bring it down to near 2-minute fineness, and very few of the most popular American hunting rifles will shoot that close with sporting ammunition.

Safety is on the left side of the bolt, a bit unhandy until you get used to it. Too bad that the SMLE and its descendants did not keep the bolt-head safety of the old long Mark I Lee-Enfield; you merely pressed it down with the thumb when you wanted to fire. However, the present left-side safety, similar in shape to that of the Model '17 Enfield, is right under the thumb when the rifle is carried in the hand and easily moved as the gun is brought up for a shot.

Sights? The front sight has the ears that we used to cu in the Model 1917 until we found them such a protection fo war use that they were adopted for the Garand. The re sight on the latest Number 4 rifle is an excellent peep, simila to the Model 1917 without such ungainly guards around i The older Number 3 SMLE has an open sight on the barre Lyman makes their fine 48 and cheaper 34 to fit it.

When it comes to equipment for any Lee-Enfield, however the boys to consult are the English outfit of Parker-Hale Ltd Whitall Street, Birmingham, England. Their cleaning ro and preparations have already become favorably known in th United States. They handle all sorts of target-shooti accessories, too. And their sights are excellent! Parker-Ha also handles parts for various Lee-Enfields, or will sell th complete rifle. Their catalog is almost a must.

If you are looking for a super-accurate target rifle, or foundation garment for a hot wildcat load, the Lee-Enfield certainly not for you—though fine groups have been shot wi selected rifles and some fine high-speed .22s have been bas upon the .303 case. But if you are interested in a military ri that is easily convertible to a light, handy hunting rifle th will stand hard usage and drop the largest game, don't mi a chance to pick one up. Her exterior may look ungainly, bu like a chorus girl disguised in an ancient oversize overcoat, s has amazing possibilities underneath!



Great Britain's service cartridge has been used as a sporting load in just about every hunting locale known to man. Adopted for issue in about 1890, the .303 British cartridge was first loaded with a 215-grain round-nose bullet which was fired at 2000 foot-seconds muzzle velocity. Most of the load's war work has been done with a more modern pointed slug however. This M VII spitzer bullet is a long one even though the weight was reduced to 174 grains. The reason for the light weight and high velocity of so large a bullet is the fact that only the base of the core is conventional lead alloy while the tip of the core is aluminum. Because the center of gravity has been shifted to the rear in this manner, the bullet has a tendency to keyhole.

Modern sporting cartridges in this caliber are loaded with 215-grain, soft-point, boattail and 174-grain, open-point-expanding, boattail bullets. The muzzle velocities are 2160 and 2470 foot-seconds respectively. The .303 British, being in a class with the .30-40 Krag, is a fine deer killer, but in the United States it has never challenged the popularity of the .30-'06 or .30-40 cartridges.

Telescope Modifications

Part I: ALTERATIONS OF OBJECTIVE LENS

By GEORGE R. PARIZEK

THE SIGHTING TELESCOPE is a specialized device adapted to serve differing needs and desires. Being an adaption, its performance may not always be everything that could be expected. The sighting scope lends itself readily to modification, but to alter such an article without consideration of the variables introduced may lead to disappointment.

It is the purpose of this article to describe various changes rather than to indicate how to do the actual work. Only those few persons endowed with mechanical ability—and to no less an extent, a basement full of tools—should attempt a major alteration. Generally, the reputable scope and accessory manufacturers do an excellent job at less cost than one can do it for himself.

Rifle scopes are evaluated largely by resolution ability. Other functions are inter-related and will be discussed. It should be kept in mind that the fundamental reason for any scope change is to improve resolving power, and that no one other function is of as great an importance.

Scope design fundamentals must be considered in all cases. Figure 1 is an illustration of an elementary scope. L_1 and L_2 form one element, L_2 and L_3 form the other element of the scope. The fact that lens relationships may change when combined to form an actual unit is not important. The magnification of this scope is shown on the illustration. Changing any or all of the lengths (D_1, D_2, D_3, or D_4) will change the magnification. Three single points of change or any combination of them are available, as altering any lens will change its associated dimension.

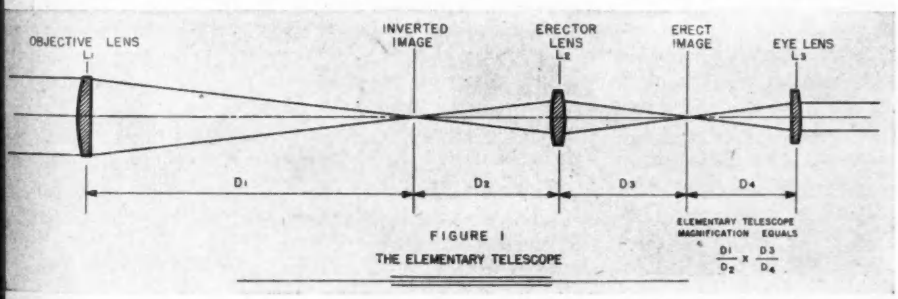


FIGURE 1
THE ELEMENTARY TELESCOPE

This first article concerns only the changing of the objective lens, L_1. This is the popular means of altering magnification of existing scopes. Following articles will consider changes to the interior and eye lenses.

Figure 2 shows a typical low-magnification scope. The dimensions and nomenclature of the elementary scope shown in Figure 1 are unchanged. Certain necessary features are added to allow the scope to be examined. L_2 is shown as two lenses as this is usual construction. Diaphragms are inserted as required. The only real purpose of a diaphragm is to limit the light path through the scope so as not to illuminate the interior unduly. Some scopes have several restricted diaphragms whose purpose is mainly to obscure all but the central portion of a lens. These can be determined by the formula included with the illustration. If the result is not approximately the same numerical amount as the known magnification, the restricting diaphragms are present.

Diaphragms are less pronounced in the better quality scopes, as ample lens shading and better lenses are used. Figure 2 includes diaphragms at X_1 and X_2 and will be considered with them in place. These diaphragms are ample to let all useful light through and yet assist in darkening the tube.

All telescope evaluations must take into consideration the path of light through the scope. P_1 is all of the light that can pass through the front lens from *any one point at the edge of the field out in space.* Tracing P_1 through the various lenses and diaphragms indicates the space occupied by this *one* bundle of rays within the scope up to P_2 which is the same ray as the eye sees it.

Remembering that P_1 is the light from *one* point at the extreme edge of the field, corresponding opposite edges of the field will occupy identical positions opposite to that shown. All other rays will fall between the extreme points.

Figure 2 illustrates one extremity whose path of light remains truly circular throughout the scope. This ray indicates the outermost path of light from the edge of the field of view that is not reduced while passing through the scope. This path, although not depicting the greatest field of view, is the only one that need be considered. Rays outside this path, to the extreme edge of the field, are reduced in light transmission and may require a different position of the eye in order to be seen.

Figure 3 shows the same scope with altered front lens of longer focal length and greater diameter. The new lens was selected to double the magnification and to be twice the diameter of the original lens. The attachment is shown in the usual manner. No other lenses or diaphragms are altered. Nomenclature is the same as for Figures 1 and 2.

Using the same method of ray tracing as described for the original scope, selecting for examination that ray which fills the new lens and still falls in its entirety on L_2, the ray lines become those shown. Considering the bottom edge of the entering ray we see that it is obstructed by the attachment and the end of the original tube. It appears that this ray is somewhat restricted while passing through the tube.

To make full use of the original scope, the front end of the original tube should have been shortened and the attachment diameter enlarged over a greater distance. The faults shown

THE FUNDAMENTAL REASON FOR ANY CHANGE IN A SCOPE IS TO IMPROVE RESOLVING POWER SINCE RIFLE TELESCOPES ARE EVALUATED LARGELY BY RESOLUTION ABILITY

A construction engineer and designer for the State University of Iowa, GEORGE R. PARIZEK says, "I was practically raised with a gun in my lap."

"Scopes being relatively unavailable during the war years caused me to seek ways and means of remodeling and redesigning existing devices to meet special conditions.

"Examination of available literature disclosed that it was either too elementary or too involved with pure physics to be practical. Considerable study developed usable approaches. . . ."

are those which may be expected in usual design and may occur with indiscriminate selections.

These faults are not serious, and do not in any way interfere with some of the advantages obtained. Considering the total effect on the scope we have:

Magnification—Inasmuch as the new front lens was selected to make D_1 twice the original amount, the magnification of the altered scope will be twice that of the original scope. The relationship for magnification change shown on the illustration will always hold true if other lenses are unaltered.

Light Transmission—The altered scope, being arranged to give double the original magnification with a front lens twice the original diameter, will pass ray P_2 through the eye lens with unchanged size. Hence the light transmission will remain the same as in the original scope.

This is true only to within certain limits of the field of view. As the extreme edge of the field is reached the light transmission is diminished. This occurs in all scopes and cannot be controlled. Light transmission change formula is included with the illustration and holds true only if diaphragms do not obscure the front lens.

Resolution—Resolution is a comparative quantity dependent upon the amount of light falling on the front lens, magnification, quality of lenses, accuracy of workmanship, and atmospheric disturbance.

The entering light angle is doubled and twice the magnification is had in the altered scope as compared to the original scope. Theoretically, an increase in resolution of four times could be expected. This is rarely achieved.

Aside from all optical and mechanical difficulties, atmospheric conditions will cause considerable difficulty. Haze and heat refractions will be magnified in proportion to the increase provided. These conditions are distracting to the eye and may actually cancel all advantages obtained.

Lens quality must be better than original to provide a resolution increase. The longer focal length is more critical to focus and must do a better job of placing colors on one plane. If this is not done it may be impossible to focus the instrument precisely. Hence, the new lens will need to be better corrected for all aberration than was the original lens. These defects, magnified with an increase of power, are s rious. It is impossible to obtain any better resolvi power than that produced by the objective le alone. If the detail is not in the first image, it ca not be determined by any magnification increase.

The assurance of quality, in these respects, is t select lenses of tried and guaranteed performanc Rarely is low cost accompanied by desirability equipment. Even with the above precautions, fu satisfaction may not always be had as some scop are designed with all lenses functioning according a definite formula to provide optical compensation. Any up caused by the new objective will be noticeable.

Lens shielding and excellence of mechanical work are oth items that will affect resolving power. The safeguard f these conditions is the same as for lens selection, namely go workmanship and design.

Generally, the resolving power increase should not be e

pected to exceed the magnification i crease. Mediocre devices may not i crease resolution in any material respe and are of no real value.

This discussion may lead to t thought that large objectives are u necessary. If the light transmission the altered scope is sixteen or greate limited value can be accredited larger objectives as usually used. The large objectives ser their real purpose in dim light and become very expensive properly corrected. It is simple to compute the light tra mission by measuring ray P_2 (Figure 2) in millimeters a multiplying that number by itself. If the transmission is co siderably less than sixteen, the enlarged objective is mandato as the eye may become strained by trying to accommodate its to a diminished amount of light.

Another point that should be considered is the use to whi the scope is put. Resolving power is sometimes confused wi "seeing" ability. If target work is contemplated, then t utmost in resolution is des able. In other shooting, i creased resolution may tually be detrimental. T unaided eye, although seei a wide field with poor reso tion, will actually conce trate on the one desired po in the field and will compe sate for the poor resoluti by automatic compari with adjacent objects. It for this reason that objec when viewed with the u aided eye, may actually seem clearer than when seen throu a scope, although bullet impact may be seen better with t scope. When using a scope, the eye has little choice but t see the complete field. It cannot concentrate easily on o object, and confusion results. Bettering resolution, und these conditions, may only add to the difficulty.

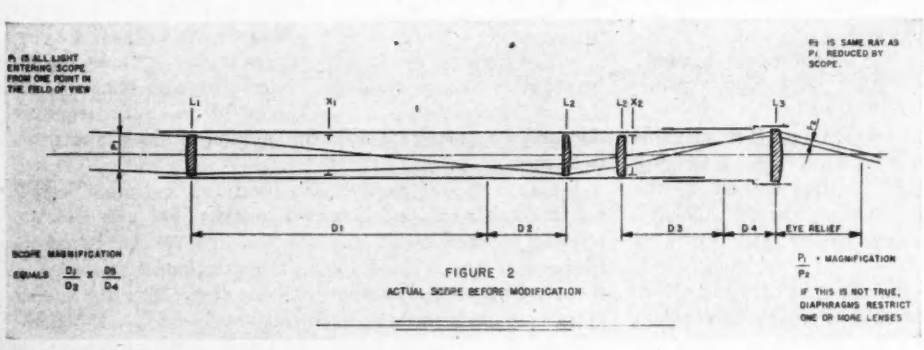


FIGURE 2
ACTUAL SCOPE BEFORE MODIFICATION

The shooter can only judge these things for himself. shooting is done in bright light and he can place his shots w without eyestrain, better resolution will help little. If d light is contemplated, better resolution is in order, but only the penalties described.

Eye Relief—The only eye relief position worth consider is that which shows a field of view uniformly illuminated fr

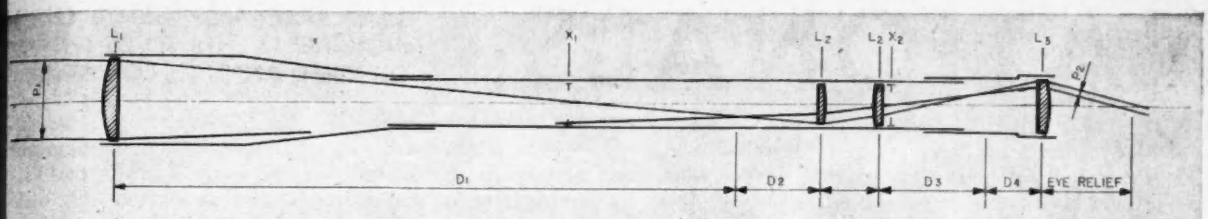


FIGURE 3
ACTUAL SCOPE AFTER MODIFICATION

MAGNIFICATION CHANGE = FOCAL LENGTH, NEW LENS / FOCAL LENGTH, ORIGINAL LENS

LIGHT TRANSMISSION CHANGE = CLEAR DIAM., NEW LENS / CLEAR DIAM., ORIGINAL LENS × 1 / MAGNIFICATION CHANGE

RESOLUTION CHANGE = (THEORETICAL) [CLEAR DIAM., NEW LENS] / [CLEAR DIAM., ORIGINAL LENS]

MAGNIFICATION CHANGE

RECTULE OBSTRUCTION CHANGE = 1 / MAGNIFICATION CHANGE

edge to edge. This is shown in both Figures 2 and 3. As no alterations to interior or eye lenses or emerging ray sizes were made, the eye relief will remain the same as in the original. If the light transmission becomes less the eye relief will become slightly longer. Similarly, an increase in light transmission will decrease the eye relief. Neither change will be appreciable.

Size of Reticule—The apparent size of the aiming device is governed by the lenses interposed between it and the eye. Regardless of location, the apparent size of the aiming device will not be changed as no lenses between it and the eye were altered in making the scope change.

However, the amount of obstruction presented to the field will bear a direct relationship to the magnification. The obstruction presented in the altered scope will be one-half the amount of the original.

Field of View—The field of view is considered last as it involves functions determined previously. The only field worth considering is that which is present at the point where eye relief is fully illuminated. The edge rays making up this field are shown in both illustrations.

As all light paths must pass the eye lens and then converge on the eye point, it can be seen that the field can be determined by the rays as they leave the rear lens.

It may be expected that the field of the altered scope would be half the amount of the original since the magnification has been doubled. This is not exactly true.

By comparative computations the field for the altered scope, instead of being one-half, is actually only slightly more than four-tenths of the original. This reduction of field becomes increasingly greater as the magnification change increases.

The above comparison is based on the fully illuminated field. The actual field that can be seen by altering the eye position and ignoring decreasing light will actually be greater. If light transmission is increased, the fully illuminated field will be reduced further. A decrease in light transmission, which is the usual case, will increase the proportion of the field that can be seen fully illuminated.

Reduction of Magnification—Should a scope, as shown in Figure 3, be changed to a lower magnification by altering the front lens, the reverse of the foregoing effects will be obtained. A downward change in magnification can be produced by several other changes that may prove more satisfactory than the front lens method if weight and size of the original scope is satisfactory. These, together with other means of increasing magnification, will be discussed in Parts II and III of this article.

It is well to insert a word of caution here with regard to lens selection for the type of changes described. Because larger diameters are used almost invariably, the best lens is none too good. Resolution may fall off appreciably at the edge of the field and severe distortion may become apparent with cheap construction. Furthermore, any scope with increased magnification should be equipped with proper-distance focusing devices. The eye lens can be used to focus on the cross hairs, but should never be depended upon for distance corrections. Many scopes of so-called 'universal focus' depend on the eye to alter its shape to focus the scope. This is a poor practice as it is always tiresome and parallax is introduced. *(To be continued.)*

♦ ♦ ♦

NEXT MONTH—Photographer Charles C. Niehuis picture-stories one of the great hunters of the Southwest, Giles Goswick, tracking and treeing a stock-killing bear. Gunsmith Tom Gresham instructs on how to make a standard sporter in the third article of his series on Springfield conversions. Julian S. Hatcher previews the *Book on the Garand* with a chapter from the volume. A firing member of the U. S. free rifle sends flash results of scores fired in the rifle and pistol matches of the XIV Olympiad in London, August 2 and 6.

NATIONALS:

1948 RIFLE AND PISTOL CHA PIONSHIP EVENTS TO BE FEATU OF FIRST ANNUAL CONVENTIO

AMERICA'S SHOOTERS, deprived of the carnival of Camp Perry, will center their attention this year on what may be the most memorable month in NRA history—October. Then, as the feature of the 1st Annual Convention, there will be assembled in Washington the greatest concentration ever of top rifle and pistol talent in a "Champion of Champions" shoot-off for the 1948 National Smallbore Rifle and Pistol titles.

It will be the *biggest* little shoot of all times, bringing together on a common firing line for the first time the fifty-odd leaders from seventeen regional championships.

LACK OF MANPOWER CAUSES CANCELLATION OF PERRY

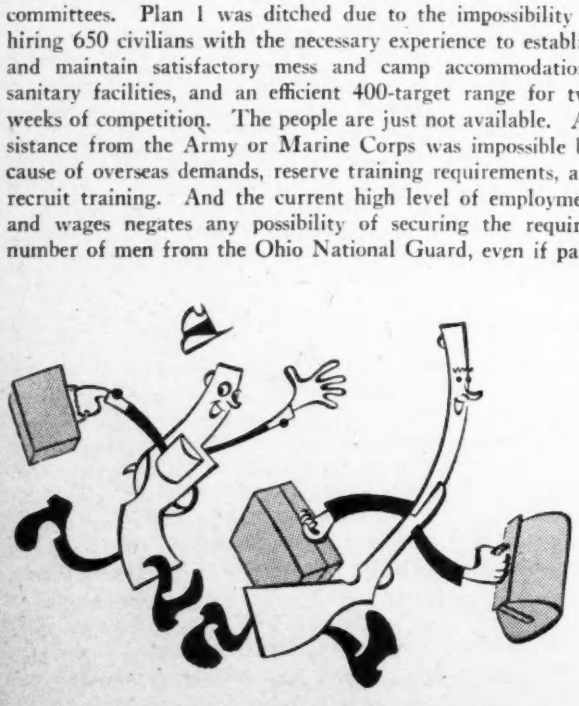
It was lack of manpower necessary to operate the huge shooting plant at Camp Perry, traditional site of the National Matches, that brought about the abrupt, last-minute switch in plans for the World Series of target shooting. Even after House of Representatives conferees refused to accept the Senate's additional $150,000 in this year's Army appropriation bill to continue DCM assistance to clubs and to hold smallbore and pistol matches at Camp Perry, the NRA Executive Committee still had several alternative plans for staging the shooting classic:

1) National Championships at Camp Perry with the Association paying the cost.

2) National Championships on centrally-located ranges other than Camp Perry.

3) Three special semi-final or qualification matches in the eastern, central, and western sections of the country, leading to a national championship shoot-off in Washington.

Weighing the merits of the suggested plans, the Executive Committee consulted members of the Small Bore and Pistol committees. Plan 1 was ditched due to the impossibility of hiring 650 civilians with the necessary experience to establish and maintain satisfactory mess and camp accommodations, sanitary facilities, and an efficient 400-target range for two weeks of competition. The people are just not available. Assistance from the Army or Marine Corps was impossible because of overseas demands, reserve training requirements, and recruit training. And the current high level of employment and wages negates any possibility of securing the required number of men from the Ohio National Guard, even if paid.



Plan 2 was ruled out when investigation failed to t up any suitable centrally-located range. While the NR would have financed additional construction (for mess, ho ing, sanitary, and range facilities), shortages of time, labo and materials—plus the dearth of manpower for camp a range operation, mentioned above—made such a project pr hibitive.

The suggested three qualification rounds of Plan 3, it w felt, would only subordinate the existing regional progra which the NRA long has tried to strengthen and for whi this year the Association had allocated more than $16,0 in prizes.

Thus, the committee's decision for 1948 calls for:

a) The three high competitors in each regional Gra Aggregate to have their expenses paid to Washington at t time of the October convention to compete in a "Champi of Champions" shoot-off for the National Smallbore Cha pionship and the NRA National All-around Pistol Champi ship. There will be no other competitors.

b) The highest Expert, Sharpshooter, and Marskman i each Regional Grand Aggregate to be invited to the Octob National Convention as guests of the Association.

c) A Southeastern Smallbore Regional to be staged Knoxville, Tenn., September 4-5 so that shooters in that ar may be represented in the Washington title match. (See page 53.)

OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLICITY EXCEEDS PREVIOUS YEARS

While abandonment for the year of the tradition of Perr with its mass participation and three-ring circus atmosphe is likely to cause disappointment in some shooting circles, t "Champion of Champions" shoot-off plan is not without meri From a public- and press-relations standpoint, at least, t event is tailor-made. For the first time in modern targ annals the races for highest laurels in the rifle and pist sports will command the center of the stage, in an atmo phere with which representatives of the nation's press a familiar. Plans call for construction of a small, efficient shoo ing layout in a country club setting in the suburbs of t Nation's Capital. Shot results will be called as soon a they hit the target, to be relayed immediately to press an spectators—no waiting, no preliminary bulletins, no clas fications to muddle the one big issue.

Press, radio, television, and newsreel representatives alrea contacted have expressed enthusiasm for the fall target class and indications are that publicity emanating from the 194 National Rifle and Pistol Championships will surpass an previous year at Camp Perry. Partially explaining this i the fact that Washington is the news capital of the world i contrast to the comparative inaccessibility of the famed Oh National Guard range on the shores of Lake Erie. Also, th combination of the national shoot-offs with the Nationa Convention is conducive to a good press throughout the natio

PLAN NOW TO ATTEND . . . SHOREHAM HOTEL, WASHINGTON . . . OCTOBER 25-29

For the NRA, this opportunity to produce a spectacle which will compare favorably with major tournaments in other sports will cost about $20,000 in addition to the $16,000 already expended for regional prizes. Much of that expenditure, of course, will go toward expense-paid trips for fifty-four riflemen from nine regionals and forty-eight handgunners from eight regionals, in addition to range construction and match operating expenses. However, only half of the fortunate regional winners, the top three in open competition at each regional, will actually compete.

The specific site of the matches, plus final decision on dates and courses of fire, will be announced later. However, dates will fall during the four days of the convention, October 25-28.

Under 1948 regional tournament eligibility rules, a competitor may compete in any *one* regional match of his choosing and is not limited to the tournament in his own area. Competitors who have passed up the opportunity to shoot in their regional may, accordingly, shoot in one of the events remaining to be fired later this summer.

CONVENTION PROMISES GOOD WEATHER, PLENTY OF ACTION

U. S. Weather Bureau statisticians, delving into their records during the October 25-28 period, disclosed that the month is one of the two driest of the year in Washington, and that temperature averages give indication of comfortably cool conditions.

Washington, site of NRA National Headquarters and the heart of the nation, thus will play host to the greatest meeting of shooter-sportsmen in history as delegates and top-flight competitors from the entire U. S. assemble for four days of feverish activity—meetings, exhibits, panel discussions, election of the Board, sightseeing, entertainment, banquet and, of course, competition.

Primary purpose in inaugurating the NRA National Convention is to give members an opportunity, for the first time, to get together in small, informal discussion groups. This, it is felt, will enable Association headquarters to obtain a nation-wide cross section of members' opinions, ideas, and problems concerning shooting in all its phases. All members will have the right to the floor during meetings.

DELEGATES ARE URGED TO MAKE ARRANGEMENTS EARLY

Convention headquarters will be the capital's big Shoreham Hotel. Consult the list of recommended Washington hotels in the June issue of the RIFLEMAN and make your reservation in plenty of time. The NRA will be glad to assist all members or delegates—but make your plans NOW. Don't miss your chance to be an important part of the NRA's first convention.

Feeling that members and club delegates who plan to attend the big conclave will want to give preliminary study to the problems likely to come under consideration, NRA staffmen have outlined some of the topics on which forums will meet. They are all subjects of vital importance to the future welfare and growth of shooting in the United States. Each club delegate would do well to ascertain the feeling of his own organization on the subjects in which he or the club is interested.

SOME OF THE TOPICS FOR DISCUSSION

Go over the checklist below, add any items you feel have been omitted, and come to Washington prepared to give your views or the views of the group you represent.

Club Administration

√Membership promotion
√Club financing
√Club activity programs
√Range procurement and design

Junior Rifle Club Administration

√Club instructors' problems
√Junior Club promotion
√Instruction methods
√Junior competitive program

Smallbore Rifle Competition

√NRA Registered Tournaments, local, state, regional, and national
√Smallbore shooting rules
√Competitive practices
√Range improvement

Pistol Competition

√NRA Registered Touraments, local, state, regional, and national
√Pistol shooting rules
√International-type shooting
√Tournament promotion and management

.30 Caliber Competition

√Rules
√Classification
√Tournament Promotion

Firearms Legislation

√The problem of the law enforcement officer
√The underlying danger from the standpoint of the American system of government
√Who is promoting anti-gun legislation
√What can we do about it? • • •

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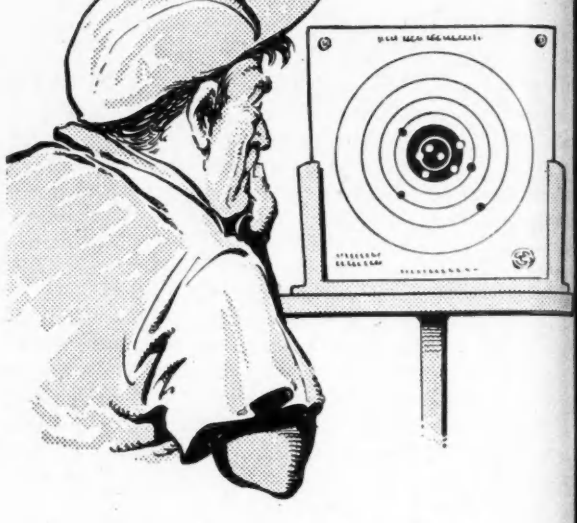
WILL YOUR CLUB BE REPRESENTED IN THESE CONVENTION SESSIONS?

So you don't improve, eh?

By WILLIAM E. PETERSON



CONSISTENTLY POOR SCORES can be pretty discouraging, but the pistol shooter can usually find some kind of an answer. Maybe the sights on his gun are too coarse, because look at the scores Bill Exring is turning in with a nice narrow rear sight notch and a streamlined front sight to fit. So our hero promptly gets busy, gets or makes himself a new set of sights, and hies himself to the range full of renewed hope and confidence. Said hope and confidence probably have as much to do with any resultant improvement as the new set of sights.

Just one or two poor scores will set the average pistoleer to wondering whether he oughtn't to get a new hammer with a fancy spur, or do something about trigger pull. And of course a new set of grips is indicated. Probably that barrel isn't heavy enough, either.

Then come long sessions of loving effort in the carving out of fearfully-shaped grips, and fitting them to the gun—quite a job, by the way. And perhaps our shooter joins the tire-tape school of gunsmithing, and hangs a piece of iron railing under the barrel with a few yards of tape. Those are the easy jobs, and the first things he does.

Now it doesn't matter a damn whether his score goes up or down the next time at the range. If it goes up, maybe he can keep it going up by further 'improvements'. If it doesn't, obviously he must try something else. Finally he may begin prying into the gun's action, ultimately reaching that point where the sister of one shooter was heard to remark, "They ought to put zippers on those guns, so you wouldn't have to take out all those little screws every time."

All of which is one of the great charms of the handgun game. There's always something you can do to the gun upon which to hang the hope of better scores. But the day finally dawns when no more gunsmithing 'improvements' are possible —or it begins to be sadly apparent that gun modifications just aren't helping. Then what? Well, there's still a way out.

Isn't it the fact, when you come to think of it, that probably 75 percent of poor scores are not due to deficiencies in the gun, but in the shooter himself. Since this is so, then how about giving a bit of thought and effort to improving the hand, and the nerves, and the eyes, all of which are certainly as important as the gun in making close groups.

Oh sure, we have our alibis. "Was working on the car all day yesterday. Boy—I'm all lamed up." Well, this shooter once put in most of a heavy day building a rock chimney, quit for a rest, got his pistol and to his astonishment promptly shot a 99 at 50 yards on the National Match Target. Never did it before or since. So muscular weariness may not be the answer to low scores. "Had a hectic party last night—oughtn't to be here at all. No wonder I can't shoot!" All right, what about the man who, after a right merry and late New Year's Eve party, came out to the range after a few hours' sleep and for the first time in his life shot a 300 possible over the Army course? I saw him do it. And, conversely, what about th many times, when feeling chipper and bright after a goo night's sleep, you have hied yourself to the range—and sh 'way below average for no good reason at all?

Of course there *are* reasons for these human variation Trouble is, we shooters generally take full personal credit f our successes, but accept our own failings as acts of an in scrutable Providence, and too often try to correct the conditio by thinking up some new gunsmithing job—which is about a much good as kicking the cat when the car won't start.

Let's take nerves—probably the most deadly cause of poo record scores, as most of us know. *Why* do you have to ge jittery at a match, just when you want to do your best? An can nothing be done about it? (Don't ask me—I get th jitters too.) But there are books on nerves in bookstores an most public libraries. Pretty tough reading, and certainly no as much fun as polishing the sear on a hammer or some simila labor of love, but perhaps more resultful. And—here's a fond thought—perhaps some capable neurologist *who is als a shooter*, may read this, and be impelled to write us an articl (or a whole series of articles) on "Shooting Nerves, and Wha to Do About Them." We get plenty of articles on grips and sights, and actions, and ammo—but none on nerves. We could use a few.

The relationship of nerves to shooting seems to be almos unexplored country. Nobody apparently knows much about it Probably we will have to do our own exploring. There are a few things we might try. For instance, coffee is supposed t make you nervous, if you believe the ads. Might try cutting out coffee for a few weeks. Tobacco, too. In that connectio one shooter once had a very enlightening experience. Had t go on a strict diet for a while—no coffee, tea, tobacco, no

NEXT TIME YOU ARE TEMPTED TO DISMANTLE THE OLD SIX-SHOOTER, STOP AND THINK. MAYBE YOU NEED AN OVERHAULING, INSTEAD OF TACKING MORE AND MORE GADGETS ON THAT INNOCENT HANDGUN . . . .

liquor. Not any. In a couple of weeks he was surprised to find his pistol scores definitely on the upgrade. He is still experimenting to learn how much he can smoke and drink without materially affecting pistol scores.

Perhaps nerve quietude can be achieved by maintaining the correct mental attitude—said ideal mental attitude apparently being that of a contented cow resting under a tree on a warm June day. All very fine—but it's pretty tough to hold onto that thought when the stop-watch starts ticking. Maybe some of that Yogi mystic philosophy would help.

There are of course certain commonsense details of procedure that help a bit during a match. Mostly 'don'ts,' like don't leave your special ammo in the car, and suddenly find it out when the range officer says "Load." And don't get irritated when delays occur in the course of the match. And, most definitely, don't shoot on the other fellow's target, or it will upset you for an hour after. Which isn't so bad, maybe, because you deserve it. Things like that can spoil a score, if you let them happen. But that is only the fringe of the problem. Let us hope that someone who knows will come along with some really helpful suggestions on this nerve problem.

Then there's the matter of eyes. A top-notch pistol shooter once brought out this classic utterance: "No sooner do you get old enough to learn how to hold, when you begin to forget how to see." One wonders how many shooters do their shooting with sights fuzzy on the edges, requiring the addition of high quality guess-work to all the other functions needed in making close groups. Anyway, that's a problem you *can beat* —simply by consulting an oculist who knows the shooting game. One of them at least advertises in the RIFLEMAN—Belz, 2 East 44th Street, New York City—and has made it possible for this shooter and a number of others to stay on the firing line, instead of retiring to the rear and watching the younger set enjoy the pleasures of competitive shooting.

If you don't see your sights sharp and clear, gunsmithing won't help you. How about spending a bit of money with a competent oculist to insure that you will get real value out of those new sights you just had put on? It may be a good investment.

One experienced shooter swears that the general condition of the stomach has a lot to do with pistol scores. Sounds logical—because this factor certainly has an important bearing upon any other branch of human endeavor. Athletes diet themselves pretty carefully before a contest. Why not pistol shooters? That extra helping of lobster Newburgh the night before the match may be responsible for more wild ones than the extra pound of trigger pull you've been trying to get rid of.

With no pretensions as an authority on nerves and bodily condition or their effect on shooting, I would tentatively offer the following suggestions for those who wish to experiment along those lines. First, read up a bit on nerves. One small volume that may be found helpful is *You Must Relax,* by Dr. Edmund Jacobson. While this book does not refer to shooting except in passing, it presents a simple course of exercises claimed to further nerve control in general, which could well be applied to shooting. There are other books on the subject, too.

As to smoking, coffee, and liquor, we all know that taken in excess any one of them will cause a perceptibly trembling hand. Perhaps it isn't necessary to cut them out completely, but you might eliminate them for twenty-four hours or so before shooting just to see if there is any beneficial effect. May be worth trying. Incidentally, one of the members of the New York City Police pistol team—toughest of competitors in any match—once stated that most of the team members smoke very little or not at all.

Dry shooting (which of course is nothing but a nerve, muscle, and eye exercise), if *consistently practiced,* should help toward smaller groups. If using a .22, put an empty case in the chamber to prevent battering up the firing pin. Aim at the face of an electric clock, and time yourself with the sweep hand.

As to match jitters, well, it seems to help a little if you try to *act* calmly, even though you are conscious of tension. Sort of like "whistling in the graveyard." Make no sudden moves, avoid being late on the firing line, get set quietly and in plenty of time. When the inevitable delays occur, try thinking of something else. Irritation never helped a score.

Remember you're not the only one under tension. The whole line is feeling it. There's a crumb of comfort in that thought. And don't get sore at yourself if you fail to shoot up to your highest practice standard. Nobody ever does at a match, except in rare instances. If you hit somewhere near your low practice average you're doing all right.

Waiting between matches can build up tension too, in some shooters. A crossword puzzle or a mystery novel might help there, until your relay is called.

Again I must state that these suggestions are not to be taken as authoritative, but merely as the result of observations of one shooter with moderate match experience. They may not appreciably aid the veteran match shooter, who has pretty well worked out his own methods with varying degrees of success. But they may help some of those handgunners whose names appear all too often in the lower half of the score bulletin, to develop a line of procedure adapted to their own bodily and neural make-up, a subject to which most men give little thought.

Anyway, before squaring off for another major operation on your poor, inoffensive gun, how about asking old Abe Nevermiss, the club champ, to punch a few holes with it. Chances are the result will prove that the major operation is required not on the gun, but on your smoking schedule, or that habit of two good cups of strong coffee at breakfast and lunch.

In any case, no gunsmithing job ever cured a wobbly gun-hand, or a fuzzy sight, or that spasmodic yank at the end of the trigger-squeeze that throws those nice fat fives. Once recognized, those failings may be at least partly corrected by redirecting some of the thought and effort many of us are prone to spend on the gun which will already shoot far closer than we can hold it. Anyway, it's something new to try. ♦♦♦

The Club Came Back!

(Continued from page 11)

cared to pay a range fee of one dollar for the privilege. We furnished targets, and assisted our guests in adjusting their sights—at a considerable saving to them of time and ammunition. This courtesy was much appreciated by our visitors and our treasury was enriched by a couple of hundred dollars. By having a custodian on the range daily to control firing and collect range fees we also prevented any promiscuous shooting by trespassers and chiselers—thereby saving ourselves much grief. Another effect of our hunters' shoots was to convince many of the participants that they needed a lot of practice to hit the vitals of a deer at 200 yards, or even at a hundred paces!

Rifle's-eye view of the Seattle Club's 100-yard targets. Those gadgets on the far left are more of the swinging-bullseye targets, which have proved so popular with hunters

In summarizing the year's activities we ended the season with approximately a 39-percent increase in paid-up memberships. Our bank balance was increased to a lesser degree but during the year we expended over eleven hundred dollars on such things as indoor and outdoor range rent, publication of our monthly bulletin, club dues in our county and state sportsmen's councils, in team entry fees in state and local matches, repairs to the outdoor range, and a secretary-treasurer's salary of $100, to say nothing of the many incidental expenses of the club.

In spite of the fact that the club officers completed their duties for the year with the club showing a membership of 180, a bank balance of nearly a thousand dollars, the club facilities in good working order and an apparently healthy fellowship among the members, they also realized that there was still much to be done to get the game booming as of old. In the first place, only a comparatively small group of shooters actually participated in each Sunday event although those present were enthusiastic and seemed to enjoy themselves. Small-bore practice is still the most popular game, and .30 caliber shooting lags considerably. The pistol game had to be neglected this year and there seem to be but a few handgunners active in our association. Our greatest handicap is the general apathy evident among the membership, both in willingness to act on committees and as officers or even to get out and shoot.

To sum up: In more than forty years experience with various clubs throughout the country and in Hawaii this writer has reached some pretty definite conclusions about the problems that confront rifle clubs and their solution.

1) The greatest danger to large clubs is the selfish temperament of individuals who want their own way and who, when they can't get it, start a clique that causes friction which menaces the club and the game.

2) The success of a club depends upon the qualifications and active interest of the men elected to run the organization. We are all too prone to elect individuals because they are "good fellows" or "good shots" or "old timers." We should instead consider their executive ability and their willingness to devote a year of strenuous, conscientious effort for the good of the whole club—not one section of it.

3) Most clubs place entirely too much dependence and too heavy a burden on the club secretary. A small, active, executive committee under a good president who is not a figurehead will accomplish more and distribute the work more efficiently than can possibly be done by one man.

4) Our future success depends on getting new blood into the game through our Junior Division and from among the thousands of young GI's who learned something about shooting and outdoors activities during the war. Too much emphasis cannot be put on the encouragement of shooting among our juniors.

5) Club programs are generally too haphazard to be effective in building or maintaining interest. There is no good reason why an entire year's program cannot be laid out and publicized at the beginning of the year. These programs must keep the hunters in mind. They must include *service* as well as competition—service to the hunter in sighting-in guns and helping him to correct shooting faults, service to the tyro by giving him patient, intelligent advice as to equipment and marksmanship, and service to the community by providing a place for youngsters to shoot under proper supervision.

In the rehabilitation of the Seattle Rifle and Pistol Association these ideas were applied. They worked! ♦ ♦ ♦

Miser's Magnum

(Continued from page 26)

This Improved gag can be applied to military actions other than the Enfield, of course. But Moffat said most gunsmiths would probably tack $5.00 onto the chambering fee for Springfields, on account of the nuisance value of having to dissect that rear sight on the barrel for the lathe work. If your spare action is a Mauser, you can still get into the act quite cheaply by having an Enfield barrel chambered for the Improved '06 and fitted to your pet.

So that's the story on the Improved '06. Cheap, husky, and easy to get. The 150-grain bullet at around 3250 feet per second should make a fine long-range coyote, antelope, and goat load, and I don't think I'd be too scared of an irritable bear if I had a magazine full of 220-grain Corelokts steamed up to 2600 feet per second. And the 180-grain bullets should behave as beautifully on ordinary game as they always have in the .300 Magnum and .30 Newton. Add it all up and the Improved '06 seems to be a desirable caliber, besides being cheap enough for us un-rich characters. ♦ ♦ ♦

'WHAM-O-O-R-R GO THE BLACK POWDER. I CLIMB OUT OF THE BLIND. I LOOK 'BOUT. AIN'T A FEDDER . . .

'AIN'T A GOD'S TURKEY'

By ARCHIBALD RUTLEDGE

THROUGHOUT THAT unpleasant episode known as the American Civil War, Jim Alston was my father's Negro body-servant. It was Jim who saved my father's life when, wounded and in a raging fever, he fell from his horse in the Potomac River during the Confederate retreat from Antietam. And the rescue was effected under the hot fire of Federal sharpshooters posted on the high rocky bluffs above the river.

After the war Jim was with us on the plantation for many years. Being a Romeo of parts, he married or consorted with one dusky damsel after another. The last one took him to her home, many miles from where Jim really belonged. My father never forgot Jim. Whenever they got together, they were like old cronies. I am afraid that I, being of a younger generation, forgot him. At least he had passed out of my mind for some years when one winter's day, hobbling along with the help of a gnarled dogwood stick, he came to visit me. He had walked sixteen miles, "all the way from Jeemstown."

I knew very well that he had not come all that distance merely to see me (you know about ulterior motives), but I made him happy and comfortable, and we had a good talk. Of course, I was expecting The Touch. But he had more legitimate business with me. The State of South Carolina, it seems, after discreetly waiting for the vast majority of her old soldiers to die off, had begun to pay pensions of $14 a month. I knew nothing of this, but Jim told me that the law had been in effect for about three years and that he had not yet seen any of the money due him. He wanted me to get his pension, and to use some speed in the matter, as he did not have exactly a stranglehold on life. I promised the old man to go to work immediately, and I intended to do so. But I forgot.

Six months later, to my embarrassment, old Jim appeared, driving in an ox-wagon this time. I told him the truth, and offered to lend him some money, promising at the same time to write the vital letter then.

He accepted the situation with that massive equanimity that a Negro alone possesses. He had no word of blame or protest. But a light dawned in his fine old eyes, and he said, "Lemme tell you a thing."

Before Jim had gone to war, and for some years thereafter, he had been the plantation hunter and fisherman. His sole duty was to supply the Great House with fish and game.

"Soon one mornin' in de fall, your Pa ride to my house. And when he used to come all the way to my house, I done already know I might as well hitch-up.

" 'Jim,' he say, 'Miss Elise comin' up from Cha'son, and Mr. Reginal', and Mr. Edmun', and they is bringin' friends. This is Thursday. We got to have two wild turkey for Sunday dinner. I would've let you know befo', but the word just come.'

"I tell him not for worry. I done already know where a heaby gang of turkey is, and if I can't kill two, he ought to get another plantation gunnerman. I done tell him put his min' at rest. And I tell him he might as well tell that good-for-nothing Sallie gal what he got in the kitchen to mash up the peanuts for the dressin'. I been dat sho about the thing!

"Now, I been long time baitin' them turkey,

but I say I better go right off and see if any feed left. I get my hamper-sack, I fill him with rice-tailin' and some broom-corn and some little rice. So I gone to the place. You know that high hill where Susie's cabin used to be, but the house burn down long ago? From there you hold for that long savanna where the Three Sisters used to be—them three big pines what been cut down when I was a boy. Well, sah, that pine slope is the place."

I mildly suggested to Jim that Susie's cabin and the Three Sisters were unknown to me, and that I doubted if I ever could follow his directions. He eyed me quizzically.

"Cap'n," he said, "you don't know enough for me to tell you anything. Howsomeever," he continued, "when I done get there, the pinestraw all rake up. They been there, but maybe two days before. All the feed been gone. I scatter all I had, and I say I will come again tomorrow and see if they find what I bring. Soon in the morning I gone there, and I wait. I gone in the blind and wait till sunrise, and here they come, 'bout forty eleven dozen wild turkeys. I been there a long time, until they done leave. So I say, 'All right, I know you comin' tomorrow same time. If my hand be steady, the Big House will be full of turkeys!'

"That night, which was Friday night, I get ready. I get my ole musket down off the buckhorn rack. You know, Cap'n, you all is done got britches-loader. You just open the gun, slip in the shell, close the breech, and you all ready. But me, I got musket, and it takes time to load a musket the way I load him. 'Bout sundown it begin a jewin' rain. I say, 'All right. Ain't no rain gwine stop me!' I get my black powder and I pour a heaby big load in a saucer on the table. Then I pour out the shot in a saucer same fashion. Then I 'xamine my caps, and lay two of them by the fire to dry out good. I gone outside and get some black moss, and I hang it by the fire to dry. I always used to wad my load with a strip I tear off my shirttail. But Ca'line—you know that wife I used to have what name Ca'line, that no-good 'oman—she say she tired sewing up what I done tear, and she say a man will tear up he clothes like no 'oman will do. That's why I use the moss for waddin'. Well, sah, I wipe off my ole musket, and I blow down the barrel, and the air come clear out of the nipple. I pour in the powder, a debbil of a big load. Then I wad him down with the moss what had done dried off by the fire. 'Bout that time Ca'line tell me it rainin', and we ain't got no wood in the house. So I put on my coat and gone after the wood. I get wet up, too, and I ask how come she did not set her mind on wood till night and rain done come down. But you better not start no argument with no 'oman. All is trickety, and when one begins to talk, a man have to stand back.

"When I rack the wood by the fire, I put the dry caps on the table. Ca'line ax me how come I ain't comin' to bed. So I gone to bed and drop asleep. But I can wake up all times of night. 'Bout the time all them hants and plateyes is creeping back to hide for the day, I been up. The rain been slack off, and ain't a wind stirrin'. I put one cap on the nipple, and one in my pocket, and I heist my foot for the turkey-blind. When I get there, day ain't clean yet. So I settle myself, and I make a peephole in the blind, and I wait, knowin' I ain't have to do a thing but take a straight aim at the whole flock and pull the trigger. Now, I been scatter that bait in a line what ran away from the blind. I like to shoot wild turkeys in the head. If you make a trail, all their heads will be together when they is feedin'.

"After a while I hear something. Great God, here they come! Nothin' but turkeys, and they come from every side, and every turkey run on the bait. They begin to eat from both sides of the trail. Their heads been as thick as black pepper. I know I can't miss. But I say I will have to go get the wagon for haul them home. Now, when turkeys is on the bait, you must wait no more. I ease my musket in the peep-hole. I lay the sight on the line of all them heads.

"Wham-o-o-r-r! The black powder make so much smoke I can't tell how much I kill. But I ain't worry. I know I kill plenty. The air been full of turkeys flying away, but I sartain sure 'bout a dozen can't fly. I take my time and climb out of the blind. I begin to look 'bout. Ain't a God's turkey! Ain't a fedder! Salvation Day, what is this? Can't be I miss all that gang of wild turkey. But, same like I tell you, ain't a drop of blood, ain't a scale off a leg! And I wonder what yo' Pa gwine say. Wusser still, I wonder what that mean Ca'line gwine say. I think maybe I bline and can't see the turkeys lyin' all around. But no. Ain't one. Please God, ain't a smell of one. I 'fraid to go home. I say maybe somethin' done happen to my min', and ain't been no turkeys. But the place been sandy, and I see all the fresh tracks.

"Well, sah, I know they ain't comin' back for maybe two or three days. I been in a fix. So I gone home. Now, I been tell Ca'line all 'bout my plan, and when I get near the house she been standin' in the door. Ever since we been married, she been tellin' me I no-account. She look as if she been satisfied she been right all along. I feel so too.

"'I done hear you shoot,' she say. 'Where the white man dinner?' I tell her the musket gone off accident-like.

"'You miss, then you lie,' she say. And I feel that way too.

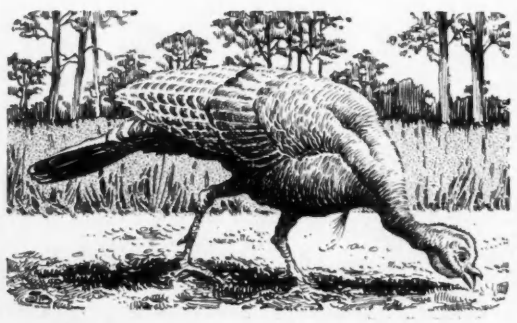
"I walk by her and gone in the house. Cap'n, befo' God, the very fust thing I see is two saucer on the table. One been empty. The powder been in that. One been heap-up with shot. In the tarrigation with Ca'line 'bout the wood, I forgot to put the shot in my musket! I make that big fine plan. I ain't sleep much. I make high promise. I say I gwine show Ca'line what a man I is. I get in the blind, and the turkeys come right up to me, forty 'leven dozen of them. I get the dead bead on them. I pull the trigger. And ain't a God's shot been in the musket!"

Quite thrilled by this narrative, I asked old Jim about the upset Sunday dinner.

"I gone out late that day and killed a little buck, but your Pa was disappoint'. I tell him the same thing I done tole you, and all he say was, 'It isn't like you to do that, Jim.' I don't think he be'lieve me. I know it ain't like me, but still so I done do it. And it all come 'bout 'cause I forgot. You know why I tell you 'bout them turkeys?"

"It's a good story," I answered somewhat vaguely.

"No, sah, that ain't the reason why I tell you. You done understand now what happened to me because I forgot. A man must always remember. A long time ago, Cap'n, you promised me you gwine get my army money. You forgot. Ever since your Pa suspicion me 'bout that thing, and ever since that Ca'line give me that sass 'bout it, I ain't forgot nothin'. And you must not forgot poor old Jim Alston."



ZINC ALLOYS FOR BULLETS

By L. E. CAPEK

IT IS ALMOST impossible to make, economically or satisfactorily, zinc alloy projectiles for rifle cartridges in any currently used high-pressure die-casting machines. It is impossible because of the characteristics of the die-casting process in relation to the requirements of the projectile itself. Casting pressures applied to the injection of the molten metal often exceed 2000 pounds per square inch and the die halves can hardly hold tight enough to consistently maintain a parting line tolerance of not more than .001 inch. Greater variation, of course, makes the sizing operation difficult and adds an undesirable weight variable to the bullet.

Some porosity usually must be expected in a die casting. In many products even large internal porous areas are relatively unimportant, while in some products porosity must and can be controlled to pin-point size and confined to non-critical areas. Up to now, at least, porosity in die castings has been neither consistently nor completely eliminated. Obviously, porosity affects weight and must not be present in high-speed, long-range projectiles if accuracy is to be achieved.

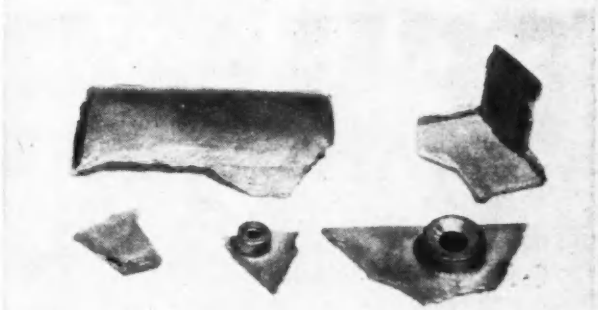
It would seem that the most economical method of producing projectiles is from excruded bar stock cut in an automatic screw machine, where an output of many thousands per hour can be achieved within relatively close dimensions.

If handloaders want to cast bullets from zinc alloys in hand gravity molds the following precautions must be taken in the bulletmaker's 'former lead foundry.' You will note in "Bullets From Zinc Alloys," by Colonel E. H. Harrison (RIFLEMAN, January, 1948, page 23), that lead and tin must be held to 'extremely low limits.' To thoroughly understand this, it must be realized what these extremely low limits are. In Zamak Alloy No. 3, the lead limit is .007 percent, tin .005 percent, and cadmium .005 percent. This is not very much. In fact, it is a certainty that if the handloader uses the same melting pot and dipper for zinc that he used for lead, his zinc alloy will be contaminated. Further, lead foil, lead flashings, or lead bullets must be kept separate to avoid possible mixing with the zinc. It has long been my habit to drop a rejected lubricated lead bullet into the lead pot for fluxing purposes. To do this with a lead bullet in a zinc pot would be sufficient reason to dump the entire melt. (Zinc, incidentally, requires little or no fluxing in bullet casting.) Lead content of only double .007 percent in the short time of six months, especially under warm humid atmosphere, will cause an intergranular corrosion that leads to disintegration of the metal.

Excessive lead content in the cast zinc alloy first shows itself by a darkening of the normal brightness of the proper alloy of zinc, and also the metal becomes very brittle. This condition in projectiles is, of course, highly undesirable; the bullets will probably disintegrate in the barrel or on impact at the target.

If you will cast zinc bullets, do so with new melting equipment and—above all—hide your lead. Please do not construe this to detract from the value of zinc alloy; it is the basis of a many-million dollar industry which helps make numerous things you use every day. This warning is intended, however, to aid in your understanding better how zinc should be handled by the large fraternity of lead bullet casters to achieve proper results.

In the writer's experiments with .30 caliber zinc alloy bullets, either cast or machined, it was found that the bullets should be made with metal displacement grooves rather than grease grooves. (In the illustration at top of page, the bullet on the left is made with grease grooves and the bullet on the right with metal displacement grooves.) A displacement groove is much shallower than a grease groove and can be determined exactly through mathematics when the barrel land size and depth, as well as bullet bore contact area, is known. The displacement groove is simply used to prevent tail fins on



Intergranular disintegration, caused by presence of .014 percent lead, resulted in this zinc alloy casting becoming brittle and dark in color

the projectile in flight, and since more metal in the grooves adds weight, it also helps gyroscopic stability. The shape of the projectile can also be modified to help accuracy, but beyond 200 yards no zinc bullet can compete with the heavier, jacketed bullets. Up to 200 yards, however, some zinc bullets were very acceptable.

For handguns, zinc bullets seem to be more of a natural. Their undesirable characteristics of less weight and greater gyroscopic instability are not accentuated over relatively short ranges, especially in the larger calibers. Some experimenting with various molds, however, may be needed for super-fine results.

The zinc alloy bullet, having less weight than a lead bullet, hence less inertia to overcome, also has less recoil and greater initial foot-seconds velocity than a lead bullet fired with an equal charge of powder. In fact, through the use of zinc bullets you can almost have .32 caliber recoil with a .38 caliber scoring hole in the target. Some sight adjustments may be necessary along with load experimenting, since the impact point of the zinc projectile will be different than that of the same loading with a lead bullet of equal size and shape (but not weight).

Another advantage is that pistol cartridges made with zinc alloy bullets feel a lot lighter in your ammo box. A box of 50 lead-loaded cartridges weighed 26⅛ ounce while the same cartridges loaded in zinc weighed only 18¾ ounce. Also, zinc bullets need no lubrication and, if the mold is in good shape, no sizing. For the handloader or commercial bullet manufacturer zinc alloy should also prove less expensive. For example, the following was the market price of tin, lead, and zinc in March

	Price Per Pound	*Pounds Per Cubic Inch*	*Melting Point*
Tin	94¢	.262	420°F
Lead	14.8¢	.408	621°F
Zinc	12¢	.252	787°F

From these prices and bullets per cubic inch, it is obvious that bullets of zinc alloy are about half the raw material cost of the same bullets made from lead. The higher melting point of zinc hardly affects the cost, and the alloy does melt and cast surprisingly easy.

If you want to seriously try your hand at casting your own projectiles, you can be sure of interesting results—especially if you practice metallurgical hygiene. ♦ ♦ ♦

Olympic Squad Sails

(Continued from page 23)

(Even though Ahern and Mansell lost out it was a great showing for police pistolmen . . . three law-enforcement men in the top five. Looks like police have come a long way since the kids used to chant at hapless patrolmen, *flat foot, blue coat; couldn't hit a nanny goat.* Marksmanship standards in police departments were never higher.)

Walsh

Democracy at work . . . Chinese-American Bob Chow representing the United States for Olympic honors. Incidentally, Chow holds about a half-dozen civilian records . . . and at one time had the .45 caliber national match record in his pocket.

Strangest sight to a handgunner accustomed to the wide open spaces . . . that enclosed firing line where thirteen contestants fought over the three slow-fire pistol spots. That canvas was supposed to keep out the breezes (and did) . . . but in the July semi-tropics of coastal Virginia it felt like an oven.

Twice Saturday and then again Sunday, slow-fire pistol contestants fired that long sixty-shot, fifty-meter course on the Olympic target . . . and scores were lower than they had been in any preliminary tryouts. No wonder, with the pressure taking its toll, and that heat inside the canvas. California's Quentin Brooks staked his first place claim early and held it with a final total of 2129 . . . seven points over Walter Walsh's second place tally. To show you how tough that Olympic target is . . . high score for the tryouts was 95, fired by Walsh.

Benner

Tomsen

Where was Benner? That unfamiliar setting must have shaken the usually nerveless champ . . . falling down on both mornings and then recovering enough by afternoon to hold his third-place spot on the team . . . The tension seemed to be highest on this range . . . no one spoke above a whisper or dared move while a string was being fired. At one point Benner . . . unthinking noisily began to pack his equipment, but was soon stared down. Another Benner 'typical' . . . the National Champ shooting one slow-fire string at timed-fire cadence and getting a good score, to pop the eyes of the USRA's Col. Roy Jones.

That trio of Brooks, Walsh and Benner is going to cause tall comment on the London ranges. All three are shooting standard (and very old) run-of-the-mill .22-caliber pistols . . . and they will be competing against those fancy European free pistols with long sight radius, fancy stocks, set triggers and the rest of the gadgets. But judging from tryout scores the slow-fire pistol team won't be handicapped. . . . Their story is that they will do better with familiar weapons, which explains why none of them ran out and bought a couple of hundred dollars worth of fancy free pistols. Sounds logical.

Cail

Only ones who found nothing out of the ordinary were the smallbore hopefuls who fired under what amounted to standard range rules . . . in everything except time limit, and that was longer than they were used to. Thirty minutes was allowed for each twenty-shot string. The weather was good to them on Saturday . . . clear and virtually no wind . . . Sunday windgusts had the boys guessing . . . and they were shooting with the breeze.

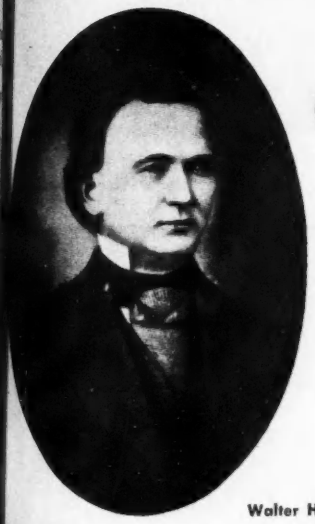
Final scores for the .22-punchers didn't go up until 5:00 Sunday evening . . . Walter Tomsen of Flushing, New York high man with 2391 of the possible 2400 and 186 X's . . . young Arthur Cook of Washington, D. C. (Eastern Small-bore Champion), second with 2390-166X. Vaughn Cail of New Haven in third spot . . . only 1X under the Cook . . . Bill Schweitzer of Elizabeth, N. J., just missed making the team with a 2390-161X.

Statisticians got to work as soon as the team members were announced and figured out that it is probably the oldest Olympic squad ever to represent the US. Age limits ran from Swanson's and Parsons' 42 to Cook's 20 . . . with an average of over 34. . . . All other squads are likely to average a decade younger. Sizes range from Roettinger, at six feet, six inches, to Cook, one foot shorter.

Cook

So that was the story. . . . The team is at Bisley now, practicing for the August 2-7 matches. By press time next month we will at least have the scores . . . and there will be pictures and a complete story in the October RIFLEMAN.

. . . and incidentally, it wouldn't be fair to sign off without a generous thank you to the Marine Corps and the Quantico Rifle Range detachment for their helping hand. ♦ ♦ ♦



Walter Hunt

One Hundred Years of Metallic Cartridge

DID YOU KNOW THAT THIS MONTH IS THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE FIRST PATENT FOR A METALLIC CARTRIDGE?

By W. R. McCAY

PROBABLY FEW of the shooting brotherhood know that August 10, 1948, will see the completion of one hundred years since the granting of the first patent for a metallic cartridge. On that date a patent was granted to Walter Hunt of New York for his 'rocket-ball,' the metallic cartridge in its infancy. The cartridge case was similar to the short base on some shotgun shells of fifty years ago, except that it had no rim and the hollow shell was supposed to go out ahead of the next discharge, cleaning the barrel of fouling.

The rocket-ball was intended for use in a breech-loading repeating rifle which Hunt had invented but the patent of which was not granted in the United States till the year 1849. A patent on the repeating rifle had been granted in England December 10, 1847. Like the old question "Which came first, the hen or the egg?" it is not known whether Hunt invented the gun to shoot his cartridge or the cartridge to fit his gun. But here is a peculiar part of the situation—the cartridge patent went to the early Smith & Wesson Co. while the gun patent went to the forerunner of the Winchester Arms Co.

The patent application describes Hunt's rocket-ball thus: "LOADED BALL. Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 5,701, dated Aug. 10, 1848. To all whom it may concern: Be it known that I, WALTER HUNT, of the city, county, and State of New York have invented a new and useful Improvement in the Construction of a Metallic Cartridge, made entire with the ball, for fire-arms, which I term a 'rocket-ball'; and I do hereby declare that the following is a true and faithful description of the same.

"Figure 1 in the annexed drawings is an external longitudinal view of the said rocket-ball, which is charged, ready for use. Upon the open end of the cartridge is fitted a thin sheet-metal cap, A. Upon the opposite front end of B (the cartridge) projects one-half of the ball C, which, all together, resembles the ordinary top thimble.

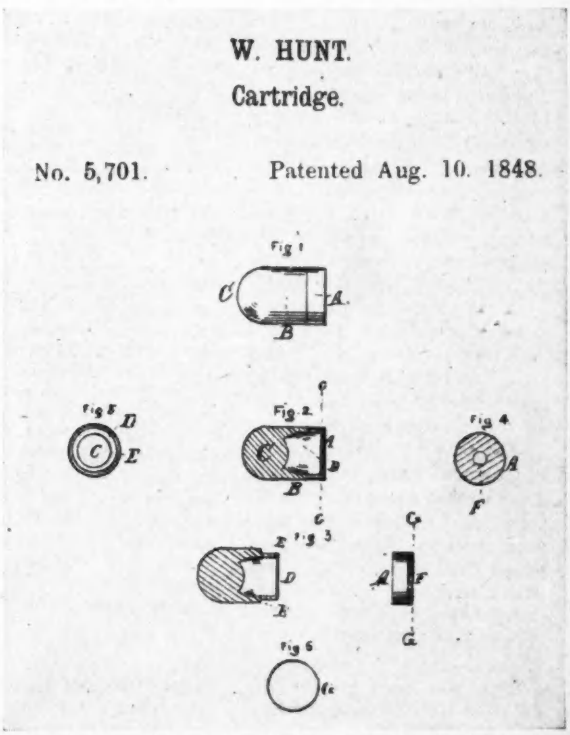
"Fig. 2 gives a longitudinal cut-sectional view of the same, showing the internal structure of the cap A, cavity D in the cartridge B, and its junction with the ball C.

"The dissected longitudinal cut section, Fig. 3, shows the cap A separated from the flange or neck formed by the shoulder, at the dotted line E, upon the rear end of B.

"Fig. 4 is an end or face view of A, which in form resembles the Chinese gong, with a central perforation, F, in its discous head, which is the point of ignition from the priming. Over this perforation, upon the inside face of said cap, is placed a thin water-proof tissue or seal. (See Fig. 2, at the dotted line G, and face view, Fig. 6.) This seal may be made of any thin material through which the fire from the priming may penetrate, and which will at the same time secure the powder in the cartridge from escape or accidental injury."

The firing or igniting of Hunt's cartridge was done by pellets contained in a small magazine in the gun itself. As the hammer descended, it scooped one of these pellets from the holding magazine and crushed it against the breech opening of the cartridge.

Walter Hunt was the inventor of the fountain pen, concrete as we know it today, the safety pin, the paper collar, the rotary blade knife sharpener, the foot-operated trolley car bell, a saw for felling trees, and improved the sewing machine so that it would actually sew. He died in New York City on June 8, 1859. Hunt had more patents to his credit than any other man of his day. ♦ ♦ ♦


W. HUNT.

Cartridge.

No. 5,701. Patented Aug. 10. 1848.

Fig 1

Fig 2

Fig 3

Fig 4

Fig 5

Fig 6

Patent drawing of 'a new and useful improvement in a Metallic Cartridge'

A PAPER FOR PEOPLE WHO SHOOT

Rifle

VOL. 11, NO. 8

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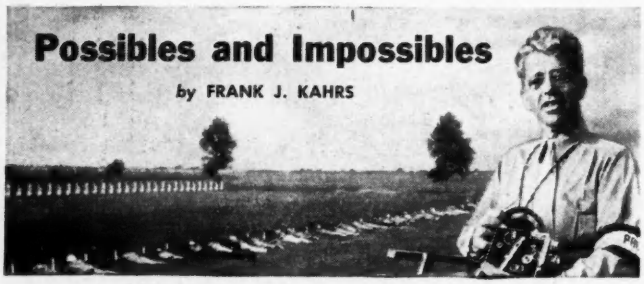


Possibles and Impossibles

by FRANK J. KAHRS

Camp Perry has been the scene of a great many National Rifle and Pistol Matches. In World War #1 there was a Marksmen Training and Sniping School located at Perry which turned out instructors by the *score*—that's a joke, son.

Everybody knows that Camp Perry was built out of a swamp back in 1906, and the first Matches were held in 1907. Ah! Those were the days. Never will we forget the sticky gumbo that clung to our clothes regardless of how we tried to get rid of it! It was fatal to step off the wooden walks that ran up and down Commercial Row, and the road that ran between Port Clinton and Camp Perry was of an early type of macadam. It was full of ruts and the horse drawn busses and buggies that carried the competitors into Camp Perry and back to Port Clinton, swayed, jolted, busted springs, and tore men's nerves to shreds.

And did you know everybody lived in tents in Company streets? True, most of the tents had wooden floors, and under these floors rats and snakes lived peacefully together. It was a common sight when they broke up Camp Perry to see the clean-up squads raise the wooden floors so that 4 or 5 good Terrier dogs could plunge in and do a good clean-up job on the vermin which lived there. It was done with a snap and a shake, and on to the next one. What a sight! And it was good sport, too.

* * *

Will you ever forget the skirmish runs, surprise fire and the small bore range up in the apple orchard where many Dewar Matches hung in the balance. A few will remember the narrow gauge railroad tracks in front of the club house, for each carried five small bore targets back and forth from the firing point to the 50 and 100 yards. What means of locomotion? Why, ropes of course and a half dozen sturdy soldiers furnished the "mule" power.

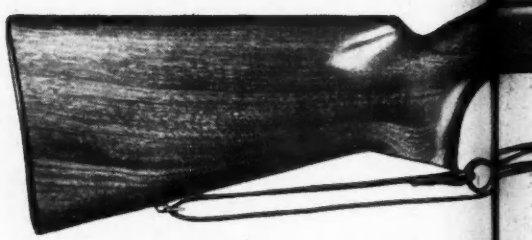
Shades of General Critchfield, whose monument was erected and dedicated while he was still alive and now stands in front of the administration building; could he but come back and see the changes that have taken place. Due to his vision, energy and determination, Camp Perry is his greatest monument. He made it possible for our shooters to assemble on one common ground each year and decide supremacy shoulder to shoulder.

So this brings us up to the present. Much as Camp Perry will be missed this year, we can still look forward to 1949, and hope for the greatest National Matches ever!

* * *

From time to time we have remarked in the column about the remarkable shooting activities being created in the Hearst Rifle Shooting competition held annually in different parts of the country, with Pittsburgh, Detroit and New York being particularly active. We recently learned of another section, New England, and more especially up around Keene, New Hampshire, where there is much activity. Teams from Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Maine, and New Hampshire participate in these matches. A great deal of interest was devolped among the 15 teams that shot in the last Event. And, of course, it was fitting and proper that the home team should lead the field, and that makes the story end just as it should; home team makes good in rifle shoot.

MORE AND
SHOOTIN



Bridgeport, Conn., August 1948. Whether your elbow
a firing point for a practice string at your home club, or
down" in a big event, you can place full confidence
ington's fine match rifles—the Model 37 and the Mo
Just notice how these precision rifles are becoming popu
high scoring shooters everywhere. It's a sure indicat
an expert's ability to hold, aim and squeeze is being h
by the Remington match rifle's ability to put the bu
where he wants it. This is an unbeatable combination!

AROUND OUR CLUB . . . "*The Worm Will Tu*

NOW DON'T BE NERVOUS-
JUST BECAUSE I WON THE CL
CHAMPIONSHIP FOR THE LAST 10
THE CHAMP HAD BETTER
HIS STEP. SHORTY IS
REMINGTON AMMO

Remington News

BRIDGEPORT, AUGUST, 1948

First Class Reading Matter for Rifle and Pistol Shooters

WEATHER:
FISHTAIL BREEZES MAKE SHOOTERS HOT UNDER THE COLLAR

...RE TOP SHOOTERS NOW ...M REMINGTON MATCH RIFLE!

Remington's Famous Model 37
Truly a "Rangemaster" in every sense of the word!

...our elbow... ...e club, or... ...nfidence... ...the Mod... ...ning popu... ...re indicat... ...being ha... ...t the bu... ...bination!

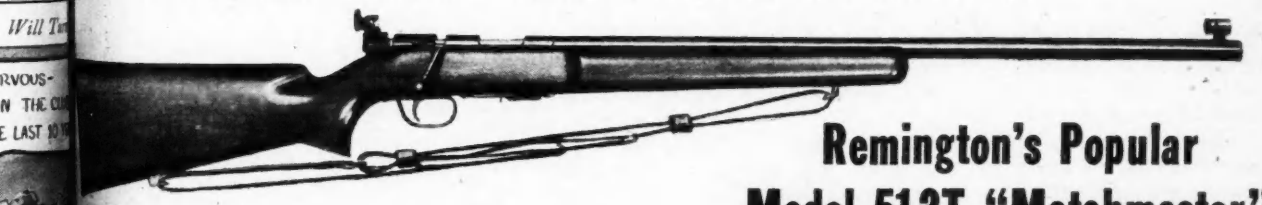
Will Tur...

...RVOUS- ...N THE CL... ...E LAST 30 Y...

...HAD BETTER ... ...HORTY IS LO... ...AMMO TO...

The world famous Model 37 fulfills all requirements for match ...curacy in all positions. It has a specially designed full- ...shioned stock, with high thick comb and close pistol grip. Its ...iracle" trigger has a smooth, sharp, crisp, lightning-fast let- ... No drag or creep. It's a joy to squeeze! There's a wide, ...g beaver-tail fore-end for steady holding. And there's an ...justable front sling swivel.

Several different iron sight combinations are available, includ- ... the immensely popular team of Remington micrometer rear sight with ¼ minute clicks and Redfield front sight (with seven interchangeable inserts). Adjustable extension mounting block is supplied with rear sight. Another important advantage is the single sighting plane. You use iron sights or telescope with your cheek pressed against the same spot on the comb of the stock! It's a great aid to accuracy. Remington Model 37's are available now. Ask to see one at your dealer's . . . or try your friend's "Rangemaster." You'll see immediately that it is the finest match rifle you ever shot!



Remington's Popular Model 513T "Matchmaster"

...e target shooter who wants an extremely accurate, fully ...ped, correctly designed rifle at moderate cost should try ... Remington Model 513T. Here is a target rifle which re- ...s precision workmanship for fine accuracy, from butt plate ...uzzle.

...his fine rifle has an adjustable front sling swivel so that it ... both long- and short-armed shooters and gives the ideal ...ern. The tailored stock was designed by one of America's ...known rifle shooters. The beaver-tail fore-end is wide and ...d, and rests comfortably in the hand.

...e smooth, easy action has a stream-lined bolt handle; short, ... crisp adjustable trigger pull; new anti-back lash adjust- able trigger stop; corrugated trigger and short, fast firing-pin travel. Red firing indicator shows when rifle is cocked. Positive side-lever type thumb safety.

New clubs and other groups getting started in rifle shooting will find the Matchmaster meets every requirement for the new shooter. Experts, too, will be surprised when they test its accuracy and easy handling qualities. These Remington Model 513T's are available now. Be sure to ask your dealer to show you this precision rifle.

Rangemaster and Matchmaster are Reg. U. S. Pat. Off. by Remington Arms Company, Inc., Bridgeport, Conn.

HOW ACCURATE ARE THEY?

(Continued from page 22)

Remington Kleanbore, 1-11/16 by 1-11/16. Group 5: Remington Hi-Speed Kleanbore, 1⅛ by 1⅝. Group 6: Peters Target, 1½ by 2-1/16. Group 7: Winchester Super Speed, 1-5/16 by 2¼. Group 8: Remington Police Targetmaster Kleanbore, 1-7/16 by 1-13/16.

This pistol handled most brands and velocities quite uniformly. Disregarding the flyer in group 2, it would seem that this is the best cartridge-gun combination produced on target 7. However, group 5 is the smallest overall and it will be noted that it was made with high-speed ammunition.

Target 8 was made with the writer's own Colt Match Target Woodsman .22 pistol. This gun was purchased new in February, 1939, and has fired close to 100,000 rounds of long-rifle ammunition. Group 1: Western, 1-3/16 inch horizontal by 2¼ inches vertical. Group 2: Western (rapid fire), 1-5/16 by 1¾. Group 3: Remington Police Targetmaster, 1-3/16 by 2-3/16. Group 4: Remington Police Targetmaster (rapid fire), 1-1/16 by 1¼. Group 5: Remington Police Targetmaster, 15/16 by 1-13/16. Group 6: Western Xpert. Not possible to measure accurately because a couple of shots went off the paper. Group 7: Western Xpert (rapid fire), ⅞ by 1-3/16. Group 8: Western (rapid fire), 1½ by 2-3/16.

This pistol handled all ammunition fairly uniformly with the exception of Western Xpert, which produced the tightest group as evidenced by No. 7. Groups 1 and 8 were made with the same ammunition and do not show any improvement from warming up and rapid firing. Groups 3, 4, and 5 were progressive attempts at squeezing increased accuracy out of Remington Police Targetmaster which is a special .22 pistol target ammunition.

Target 9: My Match Target Woodsman was again used, in order to test some ammunition not used on Target 8. Group 1: Peters Target, 2 inches horizontal by 1½ inches vertical. Group 2: Peters Target (rapid fire), 2-1/16 by 1-9/16. Group 3: Remington Hi-Speed Kleanbore, 1-13/16 by 1⅞. Group 4: Peters Rustless, 1-13/16 by 1-5/16. Group 5: Peters Rustless, 1⅛ by 1½. Group 6: Winchester Super Speed, 2-5/16 by 2-11/16.

Peters Rustless, which is a regular-speed cartridge, gave the best group on target 9. High-speed cartridges do not make as good a showing as the regular speed ammunition in this gun.

Target 10 was made with the same Match Target Woodsman used with targets 8 and 9. Ever curious and ever doubting, I again worked the Potter Rest into the ground and staked it for this target. Group 1: Peters Rustless, 1½ inch horizontal by 2-3/16 inches vertical. Group 2: Western Xpert, 1-5/16 by 1⅜. Group 3: Remington Police Targetmaster, 1-3/16 by 1⅜. Group 4: Western, 15/16 by 2-11/16. Group 5: Winchester Super Speed ammunition, 1-7/16 inches horizontal by 1-7/16 inches vertical.

Hello! General Hatcher? I've done it at last . . . an' I'm two years ahead of the comic strips!

A study of Target 10 in comparison with targets 8 and 9 will show a slight increase in group sizes except for that made by Winchester Super Speed, which shows a noticeable decrease in size. I believe that targets 10 and 3 show that the table-mounted rest gives dependable results. However, the performance of Winchester Super Speed on target 10 might tend to throw doubt on this conclusion. But, as is readily evidenced by the targets, no bullet-gun combination ever gives identical results on repeat runs and I believe that the increase and decrease of group sizes, all on the same target, can be averaged and construed to indicate approximately similar performance resulting from both means of mounting the rest. It will be noted that Remington Police Targetmaster made the smallest group on this target (group 3).

Target 11: Curious about the possibilities of accuracy at 100 yards, the same Match Target Woodsman was mounted in the rest, which was again staked to the ground. Target 11 was the result. Group 1: Western 2-7/16 inches horizontal by 3-7/16 inches vertical. Group 2: Western Xpert (only 8 shots fired), 1½ by 3⅝. Group 3: Peters Rustless (2 off the paper), remaining 8 shots measured 3-9/16 by 2-9/16. Group 4: Western Super-X (one shot hit the target clip but I believe it would have been on the paper near the edge), 6⅛ by 2-3/16. Group 5: Remington Hi-Speed Kleanbore, 3⅝ by 4-9/16.

The same ammunition that performed so well at 50 yards in this pistol held its place admirably at 100 yards. Both groups 1 and 2 would put 9 out of 10 shots in a 50-yard ten ring with the 10th shot a comfortable nine. Is the ten ring too big?

In conclusion: There is undoubtedly enough meat in these targets and groups to provide hours of analytical study and discussion. I am satisfied that this test has done just that.

Conclusions that I believe are definitely substantiated are:

1. The average modern target pistol of the revolver or automatic type is capable of putting all shots in the ten ring at fifty yards. Top performance seems to be about a one-inch circle for a ten-shot group.
2. Most pistols have a preference for ammunition.
3. Special target ammunition is not always the answer to top accuracy performance. In certain arms high-speed ammunition, or even .22 shorts, may give better accuracy than the best of "target" cartridges.
4. The capabilities of the .22 short cartridge are surprisingly good — possibly unduly overlooked by most target men.
5. High-speed ammunition is capable of a very high type of accuracy in pistols. Some pistols give their best performance with it.
6. Groups cannot be duplicated exactly and the pattern of dispersion is unpredictable.
7. Automatic pistols produce tighter groups than revolvers.

THE OLD COACH'S PAGE

A top-notch small-bore shooter for years, this month's Old Coach also operates a shooter's supply house in the Midwest. He asked both Unertl Optical Co. and Lyman Gun Sight Corp. for criticism of this copy before sending it to the RIFLEMAN. *Both these scope manufacturers recommended it, saying that it would enable all users of telescope sights to better understand the operation of those precision instruments.*

FOCUSING YOUR TELESCOPE SIGHT

IN ORDER TO GET the best possible results from your telescope sight, it must be in focus. All telescope sights, both target and big game, should be checked carefully for focusing of the ocular lens (eye-piece) for the individual user. Look at the sky thru your scope and make very sure that the reticule is clear, sharp, black—perfectly distinct. If in doubt about the sharpness, screw the eye-piece toward you two or three revolutions (leaving the stop ring so you can put it back in the same place) and see if the image improves. If it doesn't, turn the eye-piece back to the stop ring and then carefully move the stop ring ahead two or three turns (count carefully in case you decide it was best where it was at first). Lock the stop ring where the image looks best for *your* eyes (quite often it won't look so good to your buddy, especially if one or both of you need glasses).

After the eye-piece is focused for your eyes, you should check the scope for parallax. Parallax, in focusing telescope sights, is the 'apparent' movement of the reticule on the 'field' or target when viewed from two different positions thru the eye-piece. In 2X big-game scopes, this is almost negligible. Most quality big-game scopes of 2½X show so little parallax from 75 yards to infinity that they can be permanently set at the factory. For close shooting, such as 50 feet, they will also show some parallax. A 4X big-game scope should be adjusted to the range most commonly used, and if used on a .22 rifle, should be set around 75 yards. If it is changed to a .220 Swift or something like that, it should be re-focused for 150 to 200 yards. There is no such thing as 'universal' focus.

Remember, like a camera, a target telescope sight must be focused for each range. A plain box camera is theoretically in focus from five feet to infinity just as a big-game scope is theoretically in focus from 100 yards on. But the target scope with higher magnification is like the camera with the focusing scale, and it is just as important to focus carefully. Remember you do not look 'through' a telescope sight, but the optical system brings the picture inside the instrument. When properly focused, the 'picture' of the target is exactly on the reticule. If the scope is focused too far, the image will be on one side of the reticule; if focused too near, the image will be on the other. Then, if you move your head or eye 'across' the field of the eye-piece, the reticule apparently will move. So, put your telescope on a firm and solid support and check it on the target—50 feet is the most critical range.

Suppose you have the scope in a firm support, no vibration from the wind, and you are on the firing line, exactly 100 yards from your target. If you detect parallax movement and the reticule moves opposite of the way you move your head, it means the scope is focused at too close a distance. If set for 50 yards, the reticule will move opposite your movement at 100 yards. You must decrease the distance between the objective (front) lens and the erecting (center) lens. In Lyman and Unertl scopes unlock the objective sleeve and turn it toward the rear (eye-piece) of the scope. Make complete turns until you notice the parallax movement is changed and the image moves the same direction you do, which indicates that it is focused for too far a distance. Then make half turns and quarter turns until the image stands perfectly still—until it is 'painted' solid on the target. Mark the sleeve setting carefully so you can quickly change to the same range again. You'll need settings for each range you shoot—50 feet, 75 feet if you use that range, 50 yards, 50 meters, 100 yards, and 200 yards, and there it should stop, theoretically. But I never owned a scope that was perfect, and in using it at 600 yards and 1000 yards I could still detect parallax movement from the perfect 200-yard setting so, *check your scope for each and every range.*

Will these settings change? Probably not, at least not often. But continued recoil, especially if you use your scope on a .30 caliber rifle, will eventually cause a little change from the erecting lens system (center) being moved a trifle—so check your scope before each important match.

On many occasions I have found shooters who claimed they could always shoot better scores with iron sights than with a good scope. Ninety-nine percent of the time this claim means the fellow (maybe a real hot-shot too) hasn't carefully removed the parallax from his scope or has a poor or defective instrument. I don't think even the best eyes and best iron sights can *keep the error of aim much under one minute* of angle. With a good target scope this is easy.

A good target scope will show how much error you have. Maybe you can hold the cross-wires inside the X ring, maybe you can quarter a .22 bullet and hold the cross-wires there, which would be less than a quarter minute of angle. But remember the scope only shows how much 'wiggle' you have as standard equipment which brings up the matter of 'power' or magnification.

Higher magnification bothers most shooters in the offhand position. If it *bothers* them, it perhaps would be best to use a lower power, even though it only shows how much they are wobbling around with iron sights. There is no question that 6X or 8X is plenty of magnification for most target shooting. But the fact remains that more magnification can be used to good advantage by the majority of shooters, especially in the prone position. The beginner should make up his mind only after using a couple of his friends' outfits. The average small-bore shooter can easily use a 10X or 15X scope for outdoor shooting and will have the advantage of spotting most of his shots instantly. A word of caution—never strain your eyes to spot a shot with your rifle telescope. Use a spotting scope or, if it's in a tight group, let it go at that. It's not wise to strain your shooting eye if you can help it.

Scopes like the Lyman Junior Targetspot and the Unertl 1 inch are not made with more than 10 magnifications because the objective lens doesn't gather enough light to give good definition for higher powers. With hard lens coating, though, they do an excellent job with 10X. ♦ ♦ ♦

THE SPOTTING SCOPE -- August 1948

Michigan has opened state lands to establishment of skeet and rifle ranges under a policy statement announced by the State Department of Conservation. The Department itself will build one and permits will be issued to interested groups for construction of others . . . Science News Letter for June 5 matter-of-factly reports a patent for a neat suicide weapon . . . a shotgun on which a movable section of buttplate is linked to the trigger mechanism so that the gun can be fired merely by bringing it sharply against the shoulder without touching the trigger. "It is thus possible," SNL says, "to use the weapon with mittened hands in cold weather". . . or to fire it by setting the butt on the floor, we might add . . . Phil Roettinger, likable and lanky ace pistol shot, has joined Colt's in a sales-promotion capacity . . . Turn to page 50 of the February issue of The American Rifleman for information regarding sale of .30-'06 Enfields by American dealers. These are lend-lease rifles sold to American importers by the British, not rifles sold as surplus by U. S. Army Ordnance. All American surplus Enfields are sold only through the Director of Civilian Marksmanship . . . NRA member Hal McFarland, travelling in Switzerland, reports that sport shooting there nowadays is definitely for the rich . . . with used rifles on Mauser actions going for about $280, and new Holland & Hollands bringing $500.

Pistolman Horace Kennedy, who has joined the Argentine Purchasing Commission, specializing in small arms, reports that interest is high in South American countries for postal or any other kind of competition with U. S. clubs . . . Another travelling handgunner, Leon Cool, reports in from Calgary, Alberta, Canada, where he is doing research and law enforcement work . . . Under the 1948 National Championship shoot-off arrangement, only three more opportunities remain for smallbore and pistol shooters to qualify for the Washington event in October . . . They are: Northeastern Pistol at Poughkeepsie, N. Y., Sept. 4-5 . . . Pacific Coast Pistol at San Francisco, California, Oct. 15-16-17 . . . and the recently added starter (see story page 53), Southeastern Smallbore at Knoxville, Tennessee, September 4-5 . . . With most of the Regional results in, pretty Anna Lou (Ballew) Barker of Chillicothe, Ohio, is so far the only woman that has qualified to shoot in the Washington Nationals this October . . . She finished third in the Eastern Smallbore Regional at Altoona, September 3-4-5 . . . Incidentally, she is one of two former National Junior Champions to place among the winners . . . 1946 champion Arthur Cook, at present in England shooting with the Olympic team, took the top prize.

Random Pickups . . . From all reports Bustible Bulleyes have proved a great success with the shooters . . . Over 2,000,000 have been spattered over the landscape in the last six months and orders continue to pour into the distributors . . . Well-liked Jim Hurley, writer and conductor of the widely read outdoor column in the New York Daily Mirror, one of the NRA's best friends, continually tells his one million daily readers and two million Sunday readers what a great organization we have . . . Harry L. Thomas, Illinois newspaper editor, a July visitor in Washington, spoke of the work of the Winnebago County Rifle and Pistol Association . . . The organization has taken over the Camp Grant Range and conducts big-bore shoots every other Sunday . . . The Illinois Association supplies guns and ammunition to all shooters for twenty-five cents and fires them over the U. S. Army "C" course for qualification . . . Only requirement is membership in the Winnebago Association, which can be had on the spot for two dollars a year. Might be a good idea for other clubs . . . Olympic rapid fire (bobbing) targets as used by U. S. Team qualifiers have captured the interest of many handgunners . . . Possibility is that many clubs will want these targets added to their ranges for variety and to improve the breed of U. S. international competitors . . . All shooters . . . and handloaders particularly . . . will be shocked to learn of the accidental death of S. Bushnell Smith of Middlebury, Vermont. No details yet . . . Don't forget to make your plans now for the Convention and National Championships here in Washington, October 25, 26, 27, 28.

Ray Stann

Southeastern SB Regional Added; Knoxville, Tenn. Is Site Sept. 4-5

As part of the plan for the 1948 Small Bore and Pistol "Championship of Champions," announced in this issue of the AMERICAN RIFLEMAN, the Executive Committee has approved the holding of an additional Small Bore Regional Championship to be held in the South Eastern United States.

The tournament is to be held in Knoxville, Tennessee, on September 4 and 5. The sponsoring club will be the Volunteer Rifle and Pistol Club of Knoxville. Requests for programs should be addressed to A. W. Nine, 104 Underwood Place.

The South Eastern Regional Small Bore Championship, although the last to be scheduled, will be of equal stature with every other Regional Championship tournament and the identical schedule of NRA prize awards will be made.

The Chattanooga Rifle Club, which had previously registered a small bore tournament for the week-end of September 4 and 5 has agreed to change to the new dates, Oct. 23-24, in order to clear the way for the added Regional.

Regional regulations provide that any NRA member may compete in one small bore and one pistol Regional championship of his own choosing regardless of his place of residence. Shooters who have found it impossible to compete in any of the earlier Regional Small Bore Championships may elect to fire in the Knoxville Tournament.

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In the Southeastern Regional Pistol Tournament fired at Jacksonville, Florida on June 25-26-27 and 28 Captain T. E. Barrier got an early strangle hold on the Grand Aggregate, finishing in first place with 2556 to win the NRA set of Silver plus Smitty Brown's special award of $100.00. Master Sgt. Walter Fletcher took second followed by Phil Roettinger in third place. Mrs. Jerry Fontanella finished as the High Woman competitor.

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The Pacific Northwestern Regional Small Bore Tournament was fired on June 12-13 in Seattle, Washington on the Seattle Police Athletic Association Range. C. L. Wood, of Wenatchee, Wash., won the grand aggregate match with a total score of 3177 out of a possible 3200. Stuart Edmonds of Portland, Oregon placed second at 3173-193x while Wallie Burnham of Seattle took third with 3173-190x. Over one hundred competitors participated in the tournament with weather conditions changing from hot sunny weather to drizzling rains and boisterous fishtail winds. Alice Bull, Seattle, Washington, won the "High Lady" award with her aggregate score of 3167 while the "High Junior" award was presented to William Shortt of Portland, Oregon for his score of 3152.

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The Pacific Coast Smallbore Regional Tournament sponsored by the Santa Barbara Rifle Club was fired on June 11-12-13 with a total of 102 competitors participating. Robert Perkins of Fresno, California won the Grand Aggregate Match with a score of 3193 out of a possible 3200. Ralph T. Roberts of San Diego, Calif., finished second, with 3185, while Clifford C. Pierson of Burbank, California placed third with 3183. Perkins compiled this winning score by shooting a 1596-110x with iron sights and 1597-125x in any sight matches. Elma Cornish of Los Angeles fired a new woman's world record in the 50 yard metallic sight match with a 400-35x which beat the old record by 4x's. Perkins came within one point of equaling G. W. Moore's world record for the Critchfield aggregate.

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On July 3, 4 and 5 the Marine Corps Schools, Quantico, Virginia sponsored the Eastern Regional Pistol Matches. Nearly two hundred competitors enjoyed the facilities of the beautiful post including two swimming pools, golf course, NCO Club, dancing and movies. Major General Shepherd welcomed the competitors and assured them that their every wish would be taken care of. His promise was carried out 100 percent, the competitors could not have wanted more attention and conveniences. Firing under almost ideal shooting conditions, John Porter, of Detroit, Michigan led the field in the Grand Aggregate with a total of 2556. He fired an 869 in the .22 Caliber Aggregate, 845 in the Center Fire Aggregate and 842 in the .45 Caliber Aggregate. Charles Logie of Grand Rapids, Michigan placed second with 872 in the .22 Aggregate, 845 in the Center Fire Aggregate and 828 in the .45 Aggregate for a Grand Aggregate score of 2545. Walter Walsh of Arlington, Virginia placed third with 859, 857 and 826 for 2542.

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The Rocky Mountain Regional Pistol Tournament was fired on June 25, 26 and 27 on the Range of Camp George West under the sponsorship of the Colorado State Rifle Association. Ralph Larsen won first place in the Grand Aggregate Match with a total score of 2486, consisting of 857 with .22 caliber, 810 with Center Fire and 819 with the .45. Drexel Huffman placed second with 2453, made up of 831 with the .22, 823 with Center Fire and 799 with the .45. Emmitt Franklin turned in 841, 783 and 803 for a total of 2437 to take third.

TOURNAMENT REVIEWS

The Lauchheimer Trophy, most coveted prize of Marine Corps shooters, was won by Master Sergeant Thomas R. Mitchell, Distinguished Marksman and Pistol Shot, whose aggregate of 1108 was tops in the 1948 Marine Corps Matches held at Quantico, Va., the week of June 10.

In one of the closest contests in the annals of Lauchheimer competition, Technical Sergeant Walter L. Devine placed second with an aggregate of 1107, one point out, and Master Sergeant Fred H. Butcher, whose 569 was tops in the rifle match, turned in an aggregate of 1102 to take third place.

By virtue of his winning rifle score, Sergeant Butcher won the David S. McDougal Trophy and took First Gold. The Gold was his third medal needed to make him "Distinguished" with the rifle and he was already "Distinguished" with the pistol.

The Lauchheimer Trophy is awarded annually to the shooter who emerges with the highest combined rifle and pistol score in Marine Corps Match competition while the

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McDougal Trophy goes to the winner of the Marine Corps Rifle Match.

The Second Combat Service Group, Camp Lejeune, emerged winners in the Elliott Trophy Match while the Marine rifle team from the Naval Disciplinary Barracks, Portsmouth, New Hampshire, won the Wirgman Trophy.

The Combat Service Group team fired 1119 points, 14 better than the record 1105 for the M1 course in Elliott competition. The team from Portsmouth, in winning the Wirgman Trophy, tallied 1101.

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On June 20th the Gunners' Club of Long Island, N. Y. conducted the Fathers' Day Small Bore Rifle Tournament. The feature of the tournament was the Father-Son (or Father-Daughter) Match. A total of thirteen such "two-man" entries participated in this special event, which was fired over the 100 yard range with 20 shots per individual. Jim Lacy teamed with his daughter, Lorraine, won with a total score of 399-26x. The Borokhovich family combination came in second

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with 396-19x. Jim Lacy won the 20 shot fifty yard match with a score of 200-17x. Elinor Dunn led the field in the Any Sight Dewar Course with a 400-28x. Vaughn Cail took first place awards in the 40 shot Fifty Meter Match, Metallic Sights, with his 398-28x, and in the Grand Aggregate with 996-72x. Bill Schweitzer placed second with 996-65x and was followed closely by Elinor Dunn at 993-64x.

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On June 11, 12 and 13, Chief Marcus Miles and the Sparrows Point Police Department played host to two hundred and forty-one pistol shooters for the Ninth Annual Maryland Pistol and Revolver Championship.

Mert Golden of West Reading, Pennsylvania established himself as the number one guest by piling up a score of 2591 X 2700 to win the Grand Aggregate. His nearest rival with 2537 was Captain Thurman E. Barrier, USMC, of Parris Island, South Carolina, recent winner of the Southeastern Regional Pistol Tournament. Third place honors were won by R. J. Mansell of the District of Columbia's Park Police, score, 2516.

At the end of the first day of firing, which consisted of .45 caliber matches Golden had won only one match, the .45 caliber timed match with a score of 196, and found himself in second place in the .45 caliber aggregate. First place was won by Captain Barrier with a score of 838, Golden was second with 835 and Henry Leland of the Sparrows Point Police Department was third with an 826.

It was on the second day that Golden began to bear down. With the .38 caliber revolver he took first place in the slow fire match with a score of 191, first place in the timed fire match with 199 and first in the rapid fire match with 197. In the center fire match his 288 was second to Mansell's 290. Golden's aggregate for the day with the center fire pistol totaled 875, followed by John B. Layton of the Metropolitan Police who scored 853. Mansell was third with 850.

On the final day in the .22 caliber matches Golden got off to a good start by winning the slow fire match with 189. The timed fire match was won by L. Epler with a perfect score of 200 and the rapid fire score was won by C. W. Lipscomb with 199. Golden came back in the National Match Course to take first place with a 295. When all of the .22 caliber scores were totaled Golden was leading with 881, Montia Bridges of Washington, D. C., was second with 866 and Layton was third with 865.

Alice Matthews continued to provide evidence that she is the leading woman shooter on the East Coast by scoring 552 X 600 to win the Lady's Aggregate. The Maryland resident aggregate was won by Montia Bridges with a score of 574.

The Metropolitan Police Department of Washington, D. C., was high in the three team matches, .45 caliber team match, score, 1057, and the center fire team match, score 1117. First place in the .22 caliber team match went to the F.O.P. Wyomissing Team, score 1138.

REPORT FROM THE DCM

When this issue of THE RIFLEMAN went to press, the DCM was working on the last 10,500 rifle orders received during the latter part of December. By the end of August all 1947 orders will probably have been processed and sent to Ordnance Arsenals for attention. Then the DCM will begin processing the 1948 orders (for items other than

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Fecker "Woodchucker" Scope, 1.2 inch objective 4.5, 5.5 & 7 power	62.50
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Mossberg Model 151M, .22 Auto, 15 shot	30.90
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Mossberg Mod. .46B repeater, .22 cal., 30 Shot	23.90
Mossberg Rifle Scopes, 4M4 5M4 8M4	9.95
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Mossberg Bolt Action 85D S.G. 20 ga. 3 shot	23.55
Crosman S.S. Bulls Eye Air Pistol, 177 caliber	14.95
Crosman Air Rifle 20 Shot Repeater, .22 cal.	22.60
Crosman Pellets .177 cal., per M, $3.00, .22 cal.	3.75
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.32/20 W.C.F. Soft Nose, 100 grain bullet. Per 100	7.12
.38 Smith & Wesson or Colt, N.P., per 100	5.08
.41 Long Colt, lead, per hundred	5.77
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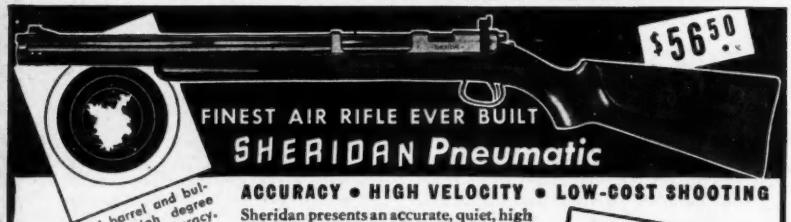

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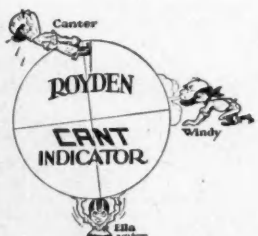

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rifles) received since January 1, 1948.

The backlog of unprocessed rifle orders includes many requests for a rifle and extra barrel. Unfortunately, the rifles and barrels are stored at different arsenals; therefore, it is no longer possible to ship both items from the same depot. Such orders are now being handled as two separate transactions. Moreover, most of the depots have indicated that the supply of leather slings is about exhausted, and it is doubtful that additional leather slings will be made available. There is, however, an adequate supply of web slings which will be substituted on such requests when all the leather straps have been sold.

Prospects continue bright for reopening rifle sales on a limited basis before the year ends. Watch THE RIFLEMAN for further progress reports.

COMMITTEE ACTION

At the June 19th meeting of the NRA Executive Committee, hearings were conducted on charges which had been preferred against three members of the NRA. Charges against Roy Meister and Charles King, of Seattle, Washington, were the outgrowth of a State Game Law violation to which they had pleaded guilty. Charges against Gordon Davenport of Northampton, Massachusetts, were brought about for violation of shooting rules during a U. S. R. A. Pistol Tournament. Meister and King were suspended from the NRA and affiliated units until June 19, 1949, and Davenport was expelled from the Association.

PISTOL CLASSIFICATION

Most pistol shooters have two NRA classifications—one for .22 caliber and center fire matches and another for .45 caliber events. When entered in aggregate matches consisting of .22 and center fire events and of .45 caliber matches, a shooter's highest classification controls his class in that aggregate. This is the case no matter which classification is the highest.

This question only comes up in those infrequent cases where a shooter's .45 caliber classification is higher than his .22 and center fire.

PISTOL RULE CLARIFIED

Pistol Rule 3-2 in NRA Rule Books prior to the current one read:

"*.45 caliber semi-automatic pistol*—Any .45 caliber semi-automatic pistol, trigger pull not less than four pounds, sights may be adjustable but must be strictly open, not more than seven inches apart and in front of the hammer."

For the sake of clarification, the current book (dated April 15, 1948) when printed was revised in rule 3-2 and now reads:

"*.45 caliber semi-automatic pistol*—Any .45 caliber semi-automatic pistol, trigger pull not less than four pounds, sights may be adjustable but must be strictly open, not more than seven inches apart and in front of the hammer when hammer is in forward position. All standard safety features of weapon must operate properly. "Muzzle brakes" and similar barrel extensions are not permitted."

All pistol shooters are cautioned to see that their .45 caliber pistols comply.

OPEN ROAD JUNIOR MATCH

Once again this summer thousands of young riflemen will compete in the competition sponsored by the OPEN ROAD FOR BOYS magazine. Anyone under nineteen years of age may participate. Both team

and individual matches are fired on a postal basis. Each shooter is classified into one of three divisions. Those who have won medals or higher ranking prizes in previous OPEN ROAD matches, those who have won medals in NRA junior matches, and those who hold NRA junior Sharpshooter, Expert, or Distinguished Rifleman qualification ratings fire in the Expert Class. Other shooters using rifles weighing (without sling) six and one-half pounds or more fire in the Tyro I Class. Those shooters using lighter rifles fire in Tyro II Class. Teams are similarly classified—the team classification being the same as the highest individual classification of its members. From three to six shooters may fire on a team, the three highest scores counting in the team total.

Do not send entries to the NRA. Write to RIFLE MATCH, OPEN ROAD FOR BOYS, 136 Federal Street, Boston 10, Mass., for entry blanks and complete rules. All entries should be sent as soon as possible since fired targets must be postmarked not later than August 18th.

NASHVILLE YOUTH CLUBS

Captain Frank B. Hill, NRA Life Member and Director of Marksmanship for the Nashville, Tennessee branch of the national organization, Youth Incorporated, has announced the activation of three new junior rifle clubs in that city. Two of these clubs, with eighty-five members have just been issued NRA charters.

This new activity of the Youth, Inc., program has already received enthusiastic support from administrative offices of the parent organization and from Nashville newspapers and merchants.

COMING EVENTS

Regional Championship Tournaments (Class A) and State or Division Championships (Class B) only are listed below. All other N.R.A. Registered Tournaments are listed in a printed schedule that will be sent to any shooter on request. Send your request by letter or penny postcard to the National Rifle Association, Competitions Section, 1600 Rhode Island Avenue, N. W., Washington 6, D. C.

Tournaments requiring advance entries are indicated by (Adv.). Tournaments limiting the number of entries that can be accepted are indicated by (Ltd.).

Preliminary Olympic Team tryouts are planned for those tournaments marked (Oly.).

Always send for a program in advance of any Registered Tournament you plan to attend. It is your assurance that you will know all of the details and all of the match conditions.

ALABAMA
October 16-17 (B)—Tenth Annual Alabama State Rifle Championship, Birmingham. C. C. Jones, 1139-16th Ave., So. **(Adv.-Ltd.)**

ARKANSAS
October 2-3 (B)—Sixth Annual Arkansas State Rifle Association Small Bore Rifle, Camp Robinson. M. F. Fiske, 212 East 17th St., North Little Rock. **(Adv.-Ltd.)**

CALIFORNIA
August 28-29 (B)—Northern California Championship, Richmond. Chilton DeWitt, 3701 Lincoln Ave., Oakland. **(Adv.)**
October 15-16-17 (A)—Pacific Coast Pistol Regional, San Francisco. E. J. Dutil, 324-16th Ave.

COLORADO
September 11-12 (B)—Rifle Tournament, Denver. L. F. Markle, 1006 Olive Street.
September 17-18-19 (B)—Pistol Tournament, Denver. L. F. Markle 1006 Olive Street.

CONNECTICUT
October 2-3 (B)—Connecticut Valley Pistol Championship, Rocky Hill. G. G. Ledder, P. O. Box 19. **(Adv.-Ltd.)**

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
September 18-19 (B)—Fourth Annual Pistol Tournament. U. S. Park Police Hq. Interior Building, Washington.

FLORIDA
October 16-17 (B)—Florida State Pistol Championship, Clearwater. C. A. Brown, P.O. Box 253, Tampa.

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ILLINOIS

September 12 (B)—Illinois State Rifle Association Small Bore Championships, Aurora. Michael Gawron, 2814 N. Christiana Ave., Chicago.

October 3 (B)—Illinois State Pistol Matches, Bensenville. Michael Gawron, 2814 N. Christiana Avenue, Chicago. **(Adv.-Ltd.)**

IOWA

September 18-19 (B)—Iowa State Rifle Association Class B Small Bore, Des Moines. Des Moines Rifle and Revolver Club, Box 1395.

MARYLAND

August 29 (B)—Mid-Summer Small Bore Tournament, Randallstown. E. W. Stockhausen, 4614 Marble Hall Road, Baltimore. **(Adv.-Ltd.)**

September 19 (B)—Maryland State Small Bore Tournament, Randallstown. E. W. Stockhausen, 4614 Marble Hall Road, Baltimore. **(Adv.-Ltd.)**

MICHIGAN

September 5-6 (B)—Class B Pistol Tournament, Ann Arbor. Lt. H. G. Schulpe, Ann Arbor Police Department.

October 2-3 (B)—39th Annual Michigan State .30 Caliber Rifle Matches. Camp Grayling. Terry J. Hayes, 246 Quimby Street, N.E., Grand Rapids.

October 9-10 (B)—Michigan State Pistol Championship, Milford. Lewis C. Sanderson, 3073 Hickory Ridge Road, R. R. #4.

MINNESOTA

August 22 (B)—Minnesota State Championship Outdoor Pistol. Art W. Gernaud, Box 289, Willmar.

NEBRASKA

September 5 (B)—Nebraska State Pistol Tournament, Lincoln. H. H. Buis, 1312 N. 35th St., Omaha. **(Adv.-Ltd.)**

NEW YORK

August 14-15 (B)—New York State Rifle Championship, Bethpage, L. I. V. B. Cleaver, P. O. Box 356, Hicksville.

September 4-5 (A)—Northeastern Pistol Regional, Poughkeepsie. Martin W. Strahan, 30 Arnold Blvd. **(Adv.-Ltd.)**

OHIO

September 18-19 (B)—20th Annual Ohio Pistol Championships Columbus. Cpl. A. L. Schmieg, 1117 E. Broad Street. **(Adv.)**

October 9-10 (B)—Ohio State Outdoor Team Matches, Mt. Gilead. John R. Lang, 3498 Meadow Avenue, Cincinnati. **(Adv.)**

OKLAHOMA

September 11-12 (B)—Oklahoma State Small Bore Championships, Tulsa. Ernest M. Fuller, 207 South Toledo. **(Adv.-Ltd.)**

October 23-24 (B)—Oil Capitol Fall Small Bore Tournament, Tulsa. Don P. Young, 216 East Archer. **(Adv.)**

PENNSYLVANIA

August 7-8 (B)—Pennsylvania State Rifle Championship, Altoona. R. B. Barry, 407 2nd Avenue. **(Adv.-Ltd.)**

September 25-26 (B)—Pennsylvania State Pistol Championship, Harrisburg. W. K. Van Horn, c/o A-MP, 323 South Cameron Street. **(Adv.-Ltd.)**

TENNESSEE

September 4-5 (A)—Southeastern Regional Rifle Tournament, Knoxville. A. W. Nine, 104 Underwood Place.

TEXAS

October 9-10 (B)—Ada Zilker Robinson Match, Austin. Joe B. Taylor, 1204 W. 10th Street.

VERMONT

September 11-12 (B)—Vermont State Small Bore Tournament, Woodstock. Forrest Quinn.

WEST VIRGINIA

September 5-6 (B)—Eleventh Annual Mountain State Pistol, Parkersburg. R. A. Simpson, 212 W. 10th St.

WISCONSIN

August 7-8 (B)—14th Annual Wisconsin State Rifle Tournament, Racine. Dexter F. Rhodes, 3828 West Sheridan Ave., Milwaukee.

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One U. S. Cal. 30 M1903A1, Serial No. 870681. Thomas W. Cowles, Route 3, Dyersburg, Tenn.

One U. S. Cal. 30 M1917, Serial No. 569839. Thomas W. Cowles, Route 3, Dyersburg, Tenn.

One 38 Cal. Colts Revolver, Officers Model, Heavy 6" barrel, blue steel, with plastic target grips, Roper Micrometer sights, Serial 643308. Alvin E. LeVan, 865 South Shores Rd., Jacksonville, Fla.

One .45 Cal. "Ithica", automatic pistol, "Jessie Harp" accuracy job for target shooting. Sanderson grips, Serial #857142. Alvin E. LeVan, 865 South Shores Rd., Jacksonville, Fla.

One Mossberg Telescope and stand, 20 power, standard size. Alvin E. LeVan, 865 South Shores Rd., Jacksonville, Fla.

One Colt, 32-20 Bisley Model, 45 frame, 4½" barrel, Blue finish, ivory color Catlin handles. Serial #276592. Glen V. Smith, 2429 Budlong Ave., Los Angeles 7, Calif.

New Guns: 1-Colt Woodsman .22 Automatic, Serial #42138; 1-Smith & Wesson K-22, Serial No. K8355; 1-Smith & Wesson K-36, Serial No. K4627; 1-High Standard .22 Automatic, 6¾" barrel, Model HDM, Serial #238833; 1-Harrington & Richardson Sportsman .22 Cal. Serial #17376.

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FINNISH LION FREE RIFLE

The apparent lack of interest or activity in free rifle shooting, in this country at least, has hampered the development of rifles for this specialized activity. Many of the old single-shot Schuetzen rifles are still around and some of them are being used, but the latest of this type usually come from foreign countries.

The .22-caliber single-shot, bolt-action Suomen Leijona (Finnish Lion) is one of them. Basically a custom-made rifle, largely by hand, the heavy (1⅛ x ⅞ x 29 inch) free-floating barrel is quite accurate, judging by some of the groups and scores. Of special interest is the pistol grip stock with the thumb hole normally found only on our unorthodox bullpup rifles. This grip is quite comfortable, but does not permit the use of the high right elbow and righthand hold. The palm rest is nonadjustable for height, except for two positions, accomplished by loosening the holding screw and rotating the support one-half turn. The stock, made probably of light-colored stained straight-grain birch, has a long, full forearm. The sling swivel (not shown in photograph) is unique. By merely depressing the swivel it can be moved readily to any one of the seven positions, from 12 to 16 inches from the trigger, in the grooved metal swivel base. The aluminum buttplate is adjustable.

The receiver is quite rugged, being machined from a heavy rectangular-shaped piece of steel. The trigger is adjustable for weight of pull, down to a few ounces. The final pull is very clean and crisp but it cannot be set heavy enough to hold our legal 3-pound limit. There is no stop for the trigger, which can be moved to the rear a noticeable distance after sear is released.

Sights are the conventional globe type, with interchangeable front apertures. The rear sight is made with click adjustments, giving approximately ⅓-minute movement per click. The rear sight is easily removed from the rifle, being locked in a longitudinal milled groove in the left side of the receiver by means of a knurled head screw.

The Finnish Lion weighs about 14 pounds. It is a well-made rifle. The one we have been using has not been tried long enough by any one outstanding shot to make a fair comparison with other custom-built free rifles, but apparently no one would be handicapped in accuracy. This rifle seemed to shoot better with Western Super Match Mark II and Remington Targetmaster. A number of 10-shot, 100-yard groups with iron sights have measured 1⅛ inches and under, the smallest being .90 inch center to center. At least two 15X 400 possible scores have been made at 100 yards. Arthur Cook, the well-known small bore shooter, scored just 3 points under his good three-position average the first time he tried this rifle on the 50-foot range.

Firearms International Co., 1526 Connecticut Ave., N. W., Washington, D. C., distributors of the FN Mauser action, complete sporting FN rifles, and selected foreign equipment, can furnish literature on the Finnish Lion The quality of this rifle plus import duty makes the price tag read $265. This same make of rifle can be seen at Abercrombie & Fitch, Madison Avenue & 45th Street, New York, N. Y.—A. H. B.

PRACTICAL BARREL WRENCH

Readers might be interested in a barrel vise and action wrench I am using. It requires very little time and money to rig up a similar one.

Visit the nearest auto wrecking yard and get six of the biggest, oldest connecting rods you can find, preferably, but not necessarily, all for the same type of engine. Take the caps off three of them and put in a dividing cardboard, the thicker the better, across the opening between the cap and rod. Pour the two halves full of lead. Bore holes in these to a slightly smaller radius than that of the barrel you wish to hold. Take the other three and pour divided casts around Mauser, Springfield, and Enfield actions. Bolt your barrel-holding rods to the stiffest thing around the shop, preferably an upright steel building support, and then put a long pipe cheater on the rod you will use for the action wrench. A small amount of powdered rosin on the barrel before clamping will help it to hold. If you get a particularly stubborn one, put two rods on the barrel, one close to the action and the other farther down. Incidentally, if used with reasonable care the bluing on a nice gun won't be even slightly marred with this set-up.—J. E. COLLINGWOOD, Topeka, Kansas.

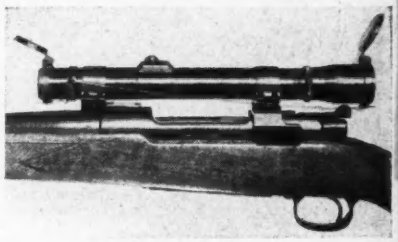
.30-'06 INDOOR TARGET LOAD

For 20-yard indoor practice with the .30-'06, Thomas H. Morgan, Jr., 140 Robbins Rd., Arlington, Mass., uses the Hensley & Gibbs No. 20 bullet weighing 170 grains with 6 grains of Pistol Powder No. 6. Bullets are made from salvaged .22 caliber lead, sized to .314-inch diameter. The inside of case necks are .312 inch. The gas check is left off and bullets are lubricated sparingly by smearing grease on them with the fingers. Targets sent in indicate practically one-hole groups.—A. H. B.

SCOPE SHIELD

Recently a device was received which, like the Vissing hunting scope cover, is designed to prevent rain and snow from obscuring the field of view in a telescope rifle sight. Known as the Instant Action Scope Shield, it consists of two spring-actuated lens covers which snap up to the positions shown when the wire-linked operating lever is triggered by the left thumb.

While the picture shows an installation with the trip band directly in rear of the objective cover, the operating lever can be positioned at any point along the scope tube. On some rifle and scope combinations it would be possible to place the actuating lever on the right side at the rear of the tube so that the covers could be operated by the right thumb.

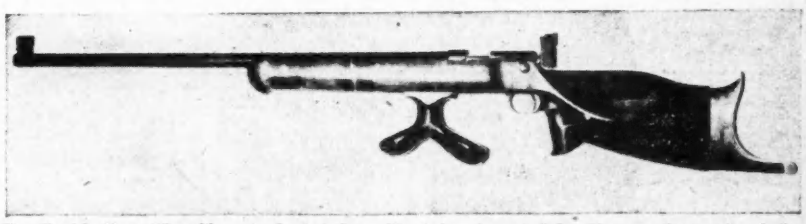


Instant Action Scope Shield

With a little care, the attachment will undoubtedly prevent rain and snow from making a scope useless. However, the hunter would be required to watch constantly against tripping the covers by brushing a coat button against the long, exposed wire linkage.

The scope shield can be used only by those hunters whose rifle bolts clear the scope by at least 4 mm. on the bottom and 1 mm. on the sides. Obviously the complete unit cannot be used with the Stith mount, which utilizes a beveled sleeve on the forward end of a scope. It is possible, however, that the eyepiece cap would be sufficient protection in this instance, if the rifle were carried with the muzzle down.

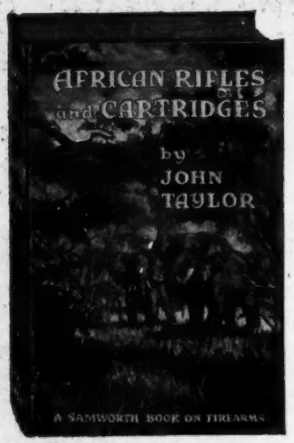
Manufactured by the Instant Action Scope Shield Company, Port Townsend, Wash., the units sell for $10.00 a set.—J. S. R.



The Finnish Lion .22 caliber single-shot free rifle being imported by Firearms International Co.

RECHAMBERED 7.7 MM. JAP RIFLE

In July a friend came to me with a Jap 7.7 mm. brought back from overseas which he wanted rechambered for the .30-'06. I refused to do the work on it, telling him I did not think his gun was strong enough for the .30-'06. He was very disappointed about this. In October he showed up again with his rifle chambered for the .30-'06 and wanted me to sight it in. He brought with him a box of factory-loaded, soft-point, 180-grain .30-'06 cartridges to use in the rifle.



AFRICAN RIFLES AND CARTRIDGES

By JOHN TAYLOR

John Taylor is a professional ivory hunter who has spent some 30 years in the African Bush engaging in elephant hunting. His total bag runs better than 1,500 elephant, almost as many buffalo, innumerable rhino, hippo, lion and leopard, besides the larger antelope and countless "small buck" shot to feed his camp retinue.

During this 30 years of continuous hunting he has owned or used all the various suitable British, German and American big-game cartridges, from the 6.5mm to the .600 Nitro. Single-shots, doubles and magazines; black powder to smokeless; lead bullets to "solids"; he has tried them all.

Here, for the first time, is an actual analysis of the suitability and killing power of all modern big-game rifles when used on game ranging from the mighty African elephant to the tiny dik-dik antelope. Many questions on hunting ballistics that interest riflemen are answered in this book; with much of it never before having been put in type.

This volume sets a new high for actual gun and cartridge suitability, performance and killing effect. There has never been a book which contains the amount of real, down-to-earth gun and hunting data such as John Taylor gives. He takes up every caliber, cartridge by cartridge, and discusses each individually. With his opinion of each cartridge, he tells the value and effect of each bullet available for that cartridge—solids, soft-point, split jacket, hollow-point, or plain lead—and this in all the various weights. Interspiced throughout the text are authentic hunting incidents, quoted from his voluminous notes, to prove some ballistic point in question.

Our artist has turned out a new style technical cartridge illustration, fully in keeping with the style and originality of the text of this book. The cartridges are reproduced full-size, with case and bullets laid open and analyzed visually for your inspection and knowledge; with jacket construction, turn-in, thickness and coverage shown; all supplemented by elaborate explanations as to the suitability and action of each cartridge and type of bullet.

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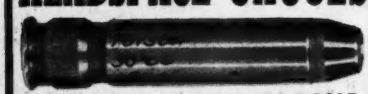

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I told him again that I did not think his rifle strong enough for this load but that if it held for ten shots, clamped down, I would then endeavor to sight it in.

I clamped the gun on my bench rest, put a cartridge in the chamber, and fired it with a long string from behind a building. On the first shot, the fired case looked all right. The second shot, fired in the same manner, also worked all right and the case seemed to be perfect. The third shot however sounded extra loud and I found the gun blown open at the receiver and the bolt still in closed position. The bullet was not in the barrel. I opened the bolt and the fired case was still in the chamber. It was split from end to end. I never did find a trace of the head which was blown off.

The remainder of the cartridges were divided into three lots and fired in three different guns, to check for indications of excessive pressure. These guns were the Remington Enfield Model 1917, an Eddystone Enfield Model 1917, and a U. S. Model 1903 Springfield. The fired cases were all perfect, showing no indication of excessive pressure. The headspace on this Jap rifle before firing checked at 1.941 gauge. The bolt closed tightly on the gauge.—OWEN H. SWANK, Swank's Firearm Repair Service, Wapwallopen, Pennsylvania.

Note: We found that the 7.7 mm. Jap receiver was machined from forged steel and not one of the cast variety. The material in this receiver shows considerable tenacity but no very great strength.

The barrel of this gun was split in a manner which indicated that it might have had a seam in it, which perhaps was the cause of the blow-up.—J. S. H.

NEW CARTRIDGE FOR 8 x 57 RIMMED

R.C.B.S Company, 1365 Seventh Ave., Oroville, Calif., has reamers for rechambering rifles which use 8.15 x 46 and 8 x 57 rimmed cartridges so they will take reformed and reshaped .30-40 Krag cases. Blown out by firing to fit the new chamber, .30-40 cases result in nice-looking cartridges. From the same company, Pacific-type dies can be obtained to reload the new cartridge. By neck sizing only, the regular 8 x 57 rimless Pacific dies can be used to do the job. Similar reamers for 7 mm. and 6.5 mm. rimmed will be made, providing there is sufficient demand for these cartridges.

Loads used so far in the 8 x 57R have been 170-grain Speer bullets and 39 grains of No. 3031. In reformed cases, a top load of 42 grains has been used. Because of the variable inside barrel dimensions of 8 mm. rifles, the R.C.B.S. chamber reamers have extra pilots of varying diameters, so that most any 8 mm. rifle can be rechambered.—A. H. B.

DAMASCUS BARRELS AGAIN

I have a Parker 10-gauge double-barrel shotgun, patented March, 1875 and 1878. On the rib between the 32-inch barrels is the word "twist." Will you kindly tell me whether this gun is safe for modern loads?

I shot the gun several times last season, but it being so old, though in good condition, I am doubtful.—ARHTUR M. HARTLEY, Richland, Washington.

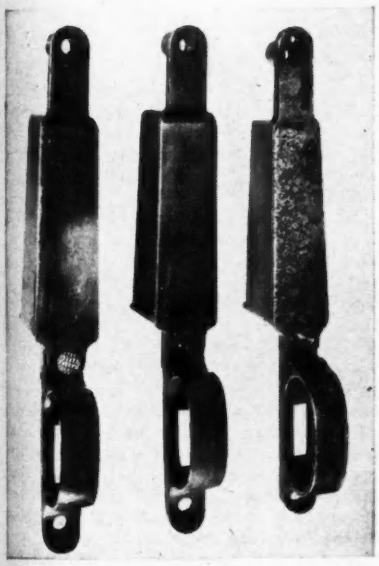
Answer: You have undoubtedly read comments on the use of smokeless shells in Damascus or twist barrels. I cannot, therefore, add anything to what you probably already know.

Anyone using even the standard velocity smokeless loads in Damascus barrels does so at his own risk. It is true that many shooters do this and even some use high-speed loads and get by with it. However, it is done without our recommendation or that of the ammunition makers. For example, even the slightest obstruction in twist barrels would probably burst them, whereas it might only bulge modern steel barrels.—A. H. B.

FLOORPLATE RELEASES

An added touch to any sporting rifle is a quick-release floorplate, a convenience that can now be added at relatively low cost. The change consists only of a handy push-button release which does not detract from the appearance of a rifle.

First to come to our attention were handmade releases for Mauser, Enfield, and Springfield trigger guards designed by W. S. Brophy of The Gun Shop, 8 N. Main St., Concord, N. H. (see photo). At approximately the same time Lee Beckett, 38-C Boone Drive, Turtle Creek, Penn., brought his design of push button release to our office.



Quick-release floorplates for Mausers, Springfields, and Enfields. Center one was made by Lee Beckett, other two by the Gun Shop, Concord, N. H.

Both styles of quick-release buttons operate in the same manner. The button is depressed, then a backward thrust on the floorplate releases it from the magazine.

Firearms International Co., 1526 Connecticut Ave., N. W., Washington, D. C., can supply a factory-made quick-release replacement catch for Mauser rifles only. The Brophy and Beckett push buttons are individually fitted to each trigger guard and floorplate.—A. H. B.

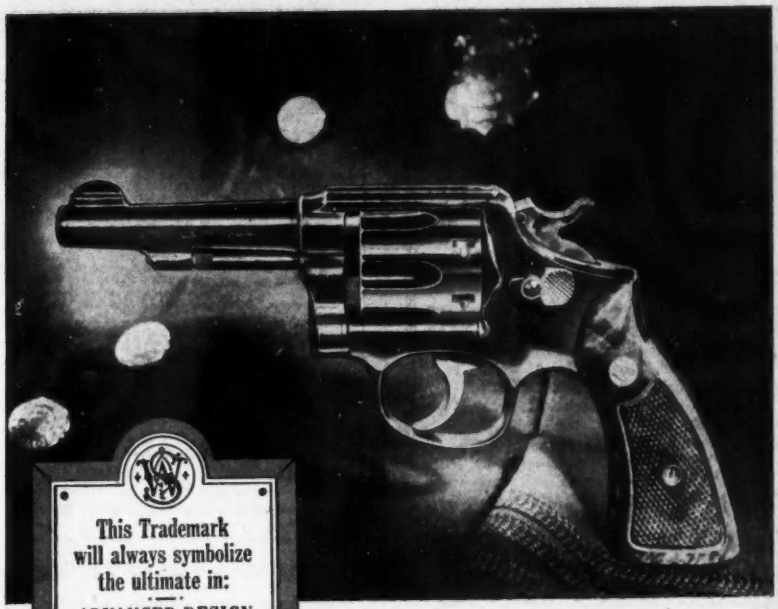
MAUSER HEADSPACE

I recently received my Model 98 Mauser from a well-known firm here in the East. With it I received a card stating:

Prooftested—OK
Headspace—1.896
Firing pin protusion—.058

I still know as much as before, and would like to know if that headspace is all right.—Mr. C. Van Nyngarden, Hawthorne, N. J.

Answer: Standard headspace for the 8 mm.



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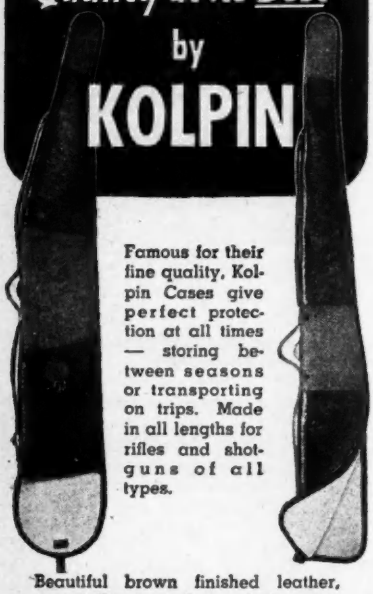

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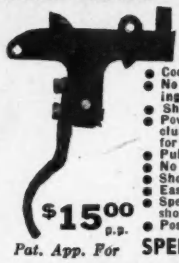

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WRONG POWDER— DANGEROUS PRESSURE

One of our members recently wrote and sent along to us several cases fired in 8 x 60 and 8 x 57 mm. rifles. Loads for these rifles had been selected by reducing the recommended power charges about 12 grains. The load they thought they were using was 40 grains of No. 4064 and a 150-grain jacketed bullet in the 8 x 57 mm., and 2 grains more in the 8 x 60 mm. with the same bullet.

Indications were that there could be no mistake about the powder, as it was the only kind on hand in a plainly marked canister. After firing these loads the bolts of both rifles had to be driven open with a wooden mallet. The cases sent us definitely indicated excessive pressure, as the case heads were expanded so that the primers dropped out. One shell guide on the face of the bolt was broken off.

All this loading was done in good faith after reading the *Ideal Handbook* and Sharpe's *Complete Guide To Handloading*, and starting well below recommended maximum charges. Not being able to find the answer, we asked for several loaded cartridges. These so-called moderate loads proved to be accurate as to powder charge and they also gave us a clue to the excessive pressure developed. The following is our reply:

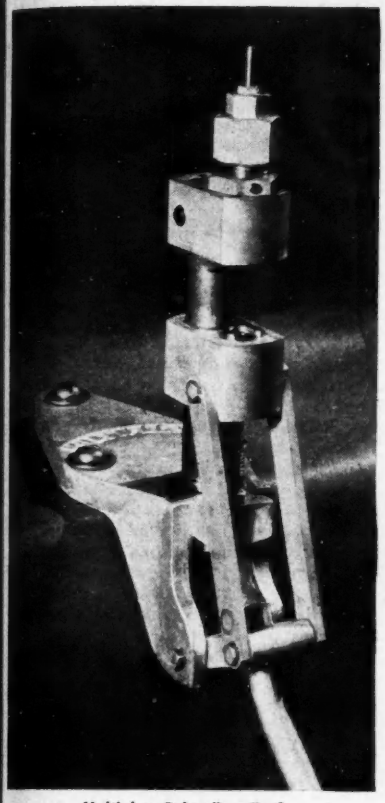
Answer: I hasten to reply concerning the fired cases from your 8 x 57 and 8 x 60 rifles. A rather serious mistake has been made, as you definitely are not using Du Pont No. 4064 powder. I cannot be absolutely sure, but I think it is Hercules No. 2400. It might be Du Pont No. 4227. That means the powder charge you were using is excessive for a jacketed bullet in 8 mm. caliber. I do not know where you obtained the powder or the data on it, but I am absolutely certain that it is not No. 4064, which explains why you obtained extremely high pressure in both these cartridges. I would recommend you discard this powder entirely for anything except mild mid-range loads. The next time you reload, be certain of the powder you are using for anything near full loads.

For example, the maximum recommended charge of No. 2400 powder with a 170-grain soft-point bullet is 22.2 grains, which gives 1960 foot seconds velocity at 28,000 pounds pressure. When you increase a load to nearly twice that powder charge you can realize what the pressure might be. I'm pleased that you sent in the powder charges and loaded cartridges in asking for advice. I found the bullet diameter to be .3235 inch. Also I found the powder charges to be on an average of .3 grain under what you indicated, so I know they are OK as far as your scale goes. By all means break down the other loads you have and be sure of the powder in them.—A. H. B.

NEW MULTIPLEX RELOADING TOOL

The Multiplex reloader is the result of ideas gained from many years reloading experience, using standard available tools. The goal reached by the designer and manufacturer, D. E. Jacoby, 365 No. Orchard St., Logan, Ohio, is low cost of the replacement parts needed to reload for many different cartridges.

The basis for the simple design of the Multiplex tool is what we will call a die-holder unit. The unit consists of a threaded body section which fits not only the Multiplex vertical straight-line tool but any other tools having 14 standard ⅞ inch threads, like the Pacific, Hollywood, Universal, and others. A hexagon cap, which locks the neck-sizer and spacers inside the die-holder unit, is threaded on the inside to accept the decapping pin and



Multiplex Reloading Tool

expander plug stem. The universal type of bullet seater plug (only one is needed for any caliber or bullet shape) also fits in the cap when the decapping and expander unit is removed.

To compensate for various case lengths, three spacers, when properly arranged, insure correct location of the neck-sizer die. Final adjustment for length is made by location of the die-holder in the tool. The shell holders for different cartridges are easily inserted in the sliding cradle.

Desirable features of the Multiplex reloader are accurate case alignment for the resizing, decapping, neck expanding, and primer seating—all done in one continuous operation. Positive bullet alignment is insured, as a floating guide fits over the cartridge case just below the shoulder. It is a sliding fit inside the die-holder, being of the same diameter as the hardened necking dies. A guide spline cut in the 1-inch diameter vertical support for the head of the tool insures correct alignment of the sliding cradle, shell holder, and cartridge case. The base of the tool is a strong, tough, light metal casting.

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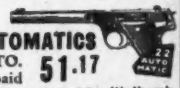

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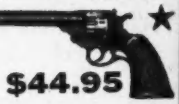

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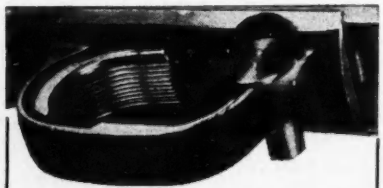

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dies, expanders, shell holders, case guides, one universal type bullet seater, and primer seaters for large and small size primers, it is possible to reload for an almost limitless number of different cartridges. It is the most versatile tool we now have, the nearest to it in this respect being the well-known Belding & Mull Model 28 straight-line reloader.

The only drawback, at present at least, of the Multiplex tool is lack of full-length case resizing facilities, but these additional dies would add noticeably to the cost. One item for reloading handgun cartridges and those used in tubular magazine rifles that is not available is means for crimping the case mouth over the bullet.

Parts for economical bullet pullers and lead-alloy bullet sizers are to be available later. These will also work in the Multiplex die-holder unit.—A. H. B.

CARTRIDGE CASE CAPACITY

Once in our correspondence about measurements and powder weighing for reloading purposes you advised me that 48 grains of No. 3031 powder was correct for the 8 mm. cartridge. I found that I could not get 48 grains in my cartridge cases, without seating the bullet too far out. You maintained that I had better have my scale checked. I did this, and still find the load too much for this particular case.

I measured 32 grains of No. 3031 and had my druggist check the weight of powder on his very sensitive drug scales (air proof). As a comparison I then checked the load on both the Pacific and Fairbanks assay scales. While there was a slight variation, I still get about 32 grains on my scale.

I am sending you a fired case containing a weighed powder charge. Now the Ideal Handbook states that I can load 33.5 grains of No. 3031 in a Remington .30 caliber cartridge such as I am sending with the charge. But, 33.5 grains will not work in the sample case, as you can see. For accuracy I always load 2 to 3 grains *under* the recommended charge. If I loaded 33.5 grains, I would not be able to get the powder in the case and have it hold the 170-grain cannelured Remington Bullet.

Please check this load and see what your scale reads. Then note that the empty fired case is practically full and will not take the cannelured Remington 170-grain bullet, which I am also sending. How can I get 33.5 grains in this case?—Everett Colby, Moorhead, Minnesota.

Answer: Sift the powder in slowly instead of dumping it in all at once.

In the fired .30 Remington cartridge case of Western make, I find that your weight of 32 grains No. 3031 powder comes within 1/16 inch of the mouth of the case. I have checked that charge, after losing about six kernels of powder (because of the Scotch tape over the mouth of the case), and my scales (which have been checked) weigh the charge at 32.5 grains. This checks with my own canister lot of No. 3031 powder. Immediately afterwards I took the same case and put in 38 grains weight and still had 1/16 inch space at the mouth.

The amount of powder you can get in a case depends largely on the way it is inserted. If I had dumped that powder in all at once, a small charge would fill the case near to the mouth. I knew the greater amount of powder was possible, otherwise Du Pont would not have published the loading data they did about using No. 3031 in the .30 Remington. For example, they list 36.5 grains of No.

3031 with the 110-grain bullet. That charge of powder still gives plenty of air space for the shallow .25-inch seating depth.

When No. 3031 powder is poured in slowly or sifted in through a funnel, I find that the recommended charge of 33.5 grains with 170-grain bullet still gives air space of ½ inch, which is correct for the 170-grain bullet.

Relative to the 8 mm. loads, I filled a case level full to the mouth and got 55 grains of No. 3031 in it. Reducing the charge to the maximum recommended, which is 51 grains with the 154-grain bullet, and slowly sifting the powder into the case, leaves a space of .30 inch for seating the bullet. The seating depth of it is .25 inch. I do not know exactly what the seating depth is for a 170-grain 8 mm. bullet, but I can put 48 grains of No. 3031 in the case and still have .45 inch between the powder level and the case mouth.—A. H. B.

NEW LIFE FOR THE .44 SPECIAL

From a theoretical and mathematical standpoint, the design of bullet I have concocted (which may not be original) changes the entire complexion of the .44 Special. It is possible with this projectile to achieve calculated energy figures in the order of 1000 foot-pounds with pressure indications within reasonable limits. This power is coupled with excellent accuracy.

The equipment used to measure velocity was a home-made ballistic pendulum that was conservative with factory loads in many calibers. This pendlum was torn down before the data was complete and an electronic chronograph is under way. A home-made machine rest was used at 25, 50, and 100 yards. This rest accepted the 6½-inch barrelled S&W unribbed guns.

The machine rest and velocity gun was a 6½-inch S&W model 1926 target, since rebarrelled with a ribbed 3½-inch barrel. The present accuracy gun is a 6½-inch barrelled S&W triple-lock.

The bullet I speak of is made from a reworked Ideal mold No. 429421, the 250-grain Keith flat-base. In effect, the bullet consists of the same bullet minus the base band and lubricating groove. Lubrication is afforded by a base wad. The bullet in solid point, weighs 184 grains, and in this form the data was obtained. Since the demise of the pendulum, the mold was hollow-pointed and the resulting weight is 160 grains. Velocity is correspondingly increased and, of course, so is the energy. Amazingly enough, the hollow-pointed bullet shoots fully as well as the solid.

Charges with the 184-grain bullet have run 12.5 grains of Unique and 25.5 grains of No. 2400 for velocities of 1550 foot-seconds. These charges could be increased. I have shot 13.0 grains of Unique with the hollow-pointed bullet for amazing results on local varmints.

This 160-grain bullet with 4.0 grains of Bullseye is a delightful target load with very light recoil and report. Accuracy is equal to any Officer's Model with the best ammo.

To those who claim that the effectiveness of the cartridge has been lessened by the reduction of weight, my answer is—on large game, maybe; on handgun game, no.—E. Farr, Packanack Lake, N. J.

DEER SPEED

The best speed that a fat, young, frightened doe can attain on firm pebbly ground is 38 miles an hour. I do not know the maximum speed of a buck as I have never had one ahead of my V-8.—R. T. Allen, San Diego, Calif.

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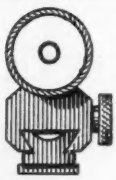

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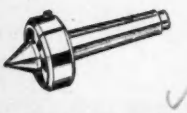

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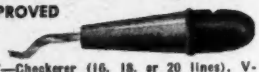

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NEW PRODUCTS

The Model 124 bolt-action repeating shotgun now being marketed by the Stevens Arms Corporation, Chicopee Falls, Massachusetts, is designed with a cross-bolt action. The bolt handle projects to the right and must be pulled out and to the rear to operate the bolt. After the bolt handle is pushed all of the way forward, it is necessary to push the handle in to bring the cross-bolt into engagement and lock the bolt. It has a safety feature which blocks the trigger from being pulled until the cross-bolt has been pushed in. We feel that the act of pushing in the cross bolt will slow up shooting and in the heat of fast shooting one is likely to forget to push the cross bolt in, thus failing to get a second shot off. In practice, this would make a single shot out of a gun with tubular magazine storage of two extra rounds.

The gun has a tenite stock which is attractively finished. It weighs seven pounds, with a barrel length of 28 inches and a modified or full choke. The whole gun presents a pleasing appearance but, for the reason given above, we cannot recomemnd it as a repeater. The Model 124 sells for $32.45.

☆ ☆ ☆

Machine-inletted, semi-finished stock for the Remington Model 721 rifle, now being sold by W. R. Hutchings, 508 East Twenty-third Street, Los Angeles 11, California, has a Monte Carlo cheek piece. Hutchings' regular grade stocks sell for $12.50, while a fiddleback Northern California black walnut stock sells for about $30.00.

☆ ☆ ☆

Forty-five and 50-grain .22 caliber Sierra bullets, gilding-metal jacketed with a lead-exposed spitzer point, are skillfully made and appear to be very uniform. They are being sold by the Harris Machine Company of 312 East Bermudez, Rivera, California. The Company also makes a 55-grain spitzer point in .22 caliber, and intends to have .30 caliber bullets on the market in about 30 days.

☆ ☆ ☆

One-hand powder measure available from Cramer Bullet Mould Company, 11625 Vanowen, North Hollywood, California, should be a time saver. It has no lever to pull, and will not result in lost motion. The shell mouth is inserted into a tapered opening with one hand and pushed up, which actuates the powder slide and dumps the charge.

☆ ☆ ☆

Wild (Heerbrugg) 4X Scope, made by Haemmerlie & Cie of Switzerland, will be imported soon by Firearms International Corporation, 1526 Connecticut Avenue, Washington, D. C. The scope appears to be well made, with a lockable focusing ring and lockable elevation adjustment. The tube diameter is 1.04 inch, length 10 inches, field of view 11 yards at 100 yards, and the eye relief is approximately 3½ inches. It is of typical European design with a large eyepiece of 1-9/16 inch diameter and a reticule consisting of a sharp picket post and side bars. It is a little heavy, 15 ounces. Evidently a price hasn't been settled on yet. If you're in a hurry, you'll have to write Firearms International for that information.

☆ ☆ ☆

Pneumatic rifle accessories by Sheridan Products, Inc., Racine, Wisconsin, include Bantom 5 mm. skirted lead bullets for Sheridan

pneumatic rifle ($4.00 per thousand), 5 mm. cleaning rods (75¢), and "Targetrap," a compact target holder with a no-splash baffle. The Targetrap is a handy accessory for stopping bullets from pneumatic rifles.

☆ ☆ ☆

The new Remington .22 caliber Model 514, a new single-shot bolt-action rifle weighing five pounds, is an attractive plinking or small game arm selling for $13.50. It will function with shorts, longs, and long rifle cartridges. The bead front sight is fitted in a standard dovetail slot, and mounted on the barrel is a middle sight adjustable for elevation. The rifle measures 13¼ inches from butt to trigger. The action cocks on the closing motion. The Model 514 is not adaptable to formal target shooting.

☆ ☆ ☆

New Mossberg Model 152 .22 caliber semi-automatic rifle has lines suggestive of the U. S. .30 caliber carbine. Thirty-seven inches long, the rifle weighs five pounds, is fed from a seven-round removable clip magazine, and is chambered for .22 long rifle cartridges only. Fitted with a Monte Carlo stock of nice walnut, the rifle has a hinged forearm that can be pulled down to form a five inch grip rest. When not in use, the grip can be snapped back to the lines of a regular forearm. O. F. Mossberg & Sons, Inc., 131 St. John Street, New Haven 5, Connecticut, manufacturer of the rifle, has set a price of $26.95 ($27.80 west of the Rockies).

☆ ☆ ☆

Pistol Powder P-5066 was brought out by Du Pont to replace the old No. 5. It has a similar composition and much the same appearance. The company does not furnish loading data on this powder, but the similarity to the old Du Pont suggests the reference to recommended charges of No. 5 for use as a guide in developing loads using it.

☆ ☆ ☆

The Micro-Movement trigger is the latest of a number of very good moderate-priced special trigger mechanisms available to replace the double-stage military type triggers used on most bolt-action rifles. It is probably the most simple in design. At least it has a minimum of working parts to get out of order. The design by Roy Gradle consists of a milled steel housing, one locking and one adjustment screw, two coil springs, and two moving parts, the trigger and the sear. The weight of pull can be adjusted from very light to a clean, crisp four or five pounds.

To fit this trigger to Enfield, Springfield, Remington 30s and 720 rifles, the sear slot in the receiver must be lengthened for the new sear. No alterations of any kind are necessary on Mauser and Winchester rifles.

The Micro-Movement trigger, unconditionally guaranteed, is made and sold by Allen Timmey, 5832 Oliva, Bellflower, California.

☆ ☆ ☆

Good .25 caliber bullets are being made with the relatively new Rock Chuck Bullet Swages by R. B. Collins, Jr., Box 2292, Norma, Oklahoma. These bullets have done very well in our .257 Roberts rifle, although no better than similar bullets made in our own R.C.B.S. dies as used in the Pacific Super tool.

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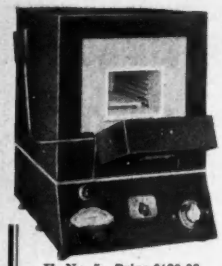

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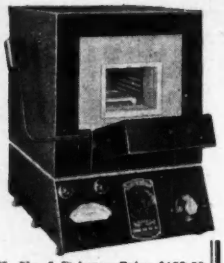

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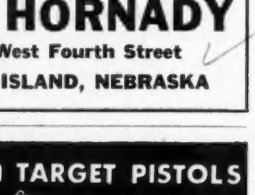

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Other shooters also report very good performance when using the Collins bullets.

☆ ☆ ☆

Boone Target Air Pistol, a spring-powered pistol shooting regular BB shot, is at best a short-range toy. The heavy spring of the gun creates quite a disturbance when the trigger is released, so that only practical accuracy at short range is possible with it. The frame and grips of the Boone air pistol are light, half-section metal castings. The barrel is a smooth-bore brass tube enclosed in a heavier steel outer tube. A metal loop extending from the frame beneath the barrel is pulled forward 1¾ inches to compress the power spring. The pistol, which weighs 15 ounces, is unusually well made considering the $3.95 selling price. Manufacturers are Precision Sports Products, Parma, Michigan.

GUNSMITH TRADE DOPE

L. L. Bean of **L. L. Bean, Inc.,** Freeport, Maine, has revised his popular *Hunting, Fishing and Camping* book, and the seventh edition is now available through the author. The price is $1.00, and well worth the cost, especially to the inexperienced who might be planning their first hunting, fishing, and camping trip. The 104 pages in the book are divided into 43 chapters touching briefly on as many different subjects. Suggestions on safety rules, caring for fish and game, preparing the camp, cooking, hunting, fishing and the use of a compass are just a few of the helpful hints given by this experienced outdoorsman.

☆ ☆ ☆

Wheeler Enterprises, Inc., R.F.D. No. 1, Box 86-A, New Augusta, Indiana, is retailing a sunshade for scopes, the "Rolback" lens hood and filterholder. Made from good grade of rubber, it is conical in shape and can be cut off to give the desired diameter. The shade was made for cameras but can be used on target or hunting scopes. It's not big enough for the larger spotting scopes.

☆ ☆ ☆

J. W. Eatman, Cuero, Texas, has sent us samples of bristle, bronze, and steel wire cleaning brushes that have 8-32 threads and will therefore fit standard rods. They are of excellent quality.

The bristle brushes are suitable for ordinary cleaning and for the application of powder solvent or light oil. The bronze brushes will help loosen and remove dirt and lead fouling. The steel brushes are rather hard on a barrel but are useful when a barrel has been badly rusted or pitted or has persistent lead or other deposits which cannot be removed with the bronze brush. In using steel brushes the rod should be pushed all the way through the gun, the brush screwed on and then drawn through in one direction only with no reversal of the motion until the brush is pulled all the way through.

☆ ☆ ☆

V. H. Blackinton & Co., Inc., Attleboro Falls, Mass., has available extremely attractive miniature lapel buttons for Distinguished Pistol Shot and Distinguished Marksman. The wearing of these decorations as lapel button miniatures has just been authorized by Army Regulations. The buttons cost

$1.50 in gold-filled quality and $3.75 in 10-karat solid gold.

To maintain a check on the eligibility of the purchaser, orders will be accepted only from rifle and pistol club secretaries.

☆ ☆ ☆

Thomas G. Samworth, Georgetown 7, S. C., added color prints last winter to his line of firearms books. The first print was the attractive "Rifle Frolick." Despite the insistence of his friends that it was a superb picture, Samworth kept insisting that it was spinach and to hell with it. He refunded the money on all orders received for it. Says Tom, "That one will be done over this fall and done right." Meanwhile, he has got out his second offering, "Trade from the Monongahela" by Gayle Hoskins. It is a real work of art as well as an enticing subject, and will be offered for sale shortly. NRA members will receive a special price through the RIFLEMAN.

☆ ☆ ☆

Boyle-Midway, Inc., Jersey City 2, N. J., has added a new heavy-body '3-in-One' Oil to the regular '3-in-One' line. Improved anti-sludge penetrating and rust inhibiting agents have been added. It is recommended for use on guns, workshop and farm equipment.

Tests verify the claims made for this heavier-bodied oil, especially as a rust inhibitor. We have been using the new '3-in-One' for several months now and find it to be a useful, dependable general-purpose oil, even in the present hot, humid weather.

☆ ☆ ☆

Fulcrum Oil Company, Franklin, Pa., has sent in samples of Fulcrum Gun and Reel Oil which we have tested for lubricating qualities and also put through our regular test for corrosion-resisting properties.

No light oil is a perfect long-time rust preventive but Fulcrum Gun and Reel oil does quite well even as a preservative and rust preventor. It seems to be a very good combination oil for use as a lubricant and as a short-term preservative and rust preventive.

☆ ☆ ☆

Siltronic Sales Company, 1017 K Street, N. W., Washington, D. C., is now selling two portable public address units, the PA-4 Junior and the PA-4 Super. The Junior, at $75.10, is satisfactory only for small indoor and outdoor ranges. The Super, however, can be used to control the firing line on larger ranges. Considering the difference in price (Super retails at $105), the Super is recommended. It weighs 15 pounds and can be carried like a small handbag. The microphone extension cord is long enough to permit placing the case on the ground and speaking from the standing position.

☆ ☆ ☆

Parker Rust Proof Company, 2177 E. Milwaukee Avenue, Detroit 11, Michigan, has listed some of the jobbers who are equipped to do Parkerizing. The Parker Company states that the requirements of NRA members will be taken care of satisfactorily if they will refer to the jobber located nearest to them.

The Parkerized finish used on many government arms is not as handsome as bluing but is highly rust resistant. Hence it is a very splendid finish for firearms.

The list includes the following: Pyrene Mfg. Co., 560 Belmont Ave., Newark 8, N. J.; Philadelphia Rust-Proof Co., 3229 Frankford Ave., Philadelphia 34, Pa.; Rust Proofing & Metal Finishing Corp., 75 Commercial Ave., Cambridge 42, Mass.; Parker Rust-Proof Co.

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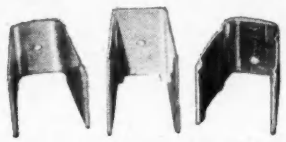

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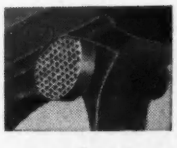

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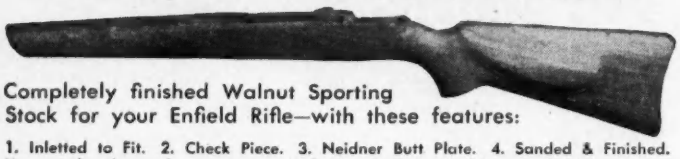

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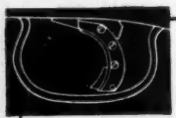

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☆ ☆ ☆

Ray Riling. 6844 Gorsten St., Philadel 19, Pa., sells for $1.00 a 24-page pamph Simplified Gun Bluing and Browning—w can be recommended to anyone contem ing a rebluing job. It is one of the things we found in Riling's new catalog.

The catalog, which costs 25 cents, many old and hard-to-find works, as we current gun books.

BOOK REVIEW

WING AND TRAP SHOOTING

By Major Charles Askins

Shotguns have not inspired the litera that rifles and handguns have. Good b on shotguns are rare indeed; poor b aren't plentiful, but they represent the jority of shotgunning books written. Ch Askins' new book falls between the good bad, chiefly because it is poorly arranged the beginner. For example, I couldn't a definition of 'gauge' anywhere in book, though at the beginning the tyro is that the "best shotgun in the world is th gauge." Then there is a discussion of three styles of pistol grips, but they are described or pictured, which leaves a comer ignorant of the difference betw them. Some of Askins' tables could be un stood by an old-timer, but a tyro woul know which end was up, or what infor tion he was supposed to get out of them.

On the credit side, let it be said Askins never leaves you in doubt of wha thinks about a gun or a load. There ar 'if's,' 'and's,' and 'but's' to confuse the ginner. Askins lays it right on the line.

About half the book is devoted to guns, loads, ballistics, and technical p The other half treats briefly of shooting wing, trap, and skeet shooting, safety sportsmanship.

This book has all the ingredients to m a super dish for the shotgunner, but As didn't cook it long enough.—R. G. CLOSKEY.

(Published by The Macmillan Co., 205 pages, illustrated. $2.49. Avail through the NRA Book Service.)

HUNTING IN THE NORTHWEST

By Clyde Ormond

HUNTING AND FISHING IN THE GREAT SMOKIES

By Jim Gasque

The age of specialization has begun t sportsmen's books. More and more b are being written about the hunting p tials of specific regions. Sportsmen lov kid themselves that game in their own gions is unique, and that it must be hu just *so* with exactly *this* equipment in precise way. Here are two books that along with the gag.

Hunting in the Northwest is the more cific and of greater practical value. author covers all seasonal hunting in M tana, Idaho, Wyoming, Oregon, and W ington, and deals with stalking, shoo

Rifle by CHAS. E. SUTFIN of Sacramento, California. Small ring commercial Mauser action, 22 inch Johnson .270 barrel (Sutfin specifications). Equipped with BUEHLER MOUNT AND SAFETY.

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inning, dressing, and transporting elk, bear, at, moose, deer, cougar, bobcat, jack rab-, and others. The information is exact d informative, and the book makes a re-ble guide. The anecdotes are lively and ntain many solid tips. The how-to-do-it otographs are poor, however, and the chniques illustrated would have been much arer if they had been shown by drawings. *Hunting and Fishing in the Great Smokies* more of a guide to the region and a dis-ssion of the available fish and game than practical manual on hunting and fishing. out 200 pages are devoted to fishing and to hunting. There is some discussion of kle, but only the briefest mention of hunt-g equipment.—R. G. McCLOSKEY.

(Both books are published by Alfred A. opf, and are available through the NRA ok Service. Hunting and Fishing in the eat Smokies, *210 pages, 22 photographs, dex, $3.75.* Hunting in the Northwest, *pages, 32 photographs, index, $5.00.)*

MERICAN FIREARMS: OLT SUPPLEMENT

Stephen VanRensselaer

Apparently assembled posthumously from ugh notes made by the late Stephen Van-sselaer, this little volume (96 pages) will d only confusion to the data already avail-le on the products of Sam Colt and his imi-ors. Ill-arranged and badly illustrated, material seems to have been published gely as Mr. VanRensselaer left it—notes specific examples which he saw or han-d during his years as collector and dealer, s a roughly chronological text.

On one page alone, errors appear as to number of 1847 "Walker" Colts manu-ctured (correctly stated some 66 pages rther along), and in the first use of the ding lever on Colt pistols. To add to the nfusion, the illustrations on the facing page e transposed. Though these are extreme mples, similar shortcomings are painfully ident throughout the book. Poor illustra-ns—often out of focus, muddy, and in me cases unidentified—add the finishing ch.

It is a shame that a book which might ve added some facts to the Colt story ls so completely. As it is, the lack of or-nization, index, and even agreement on cts makes it hopeless for the beginner. e seasoned collector will find so many bious points that he will inevitably ques-n that which might have been of value.—S.

(Published by Century House, Watkyns es, N. Y. 96 pages, illustrated, $3.50.)

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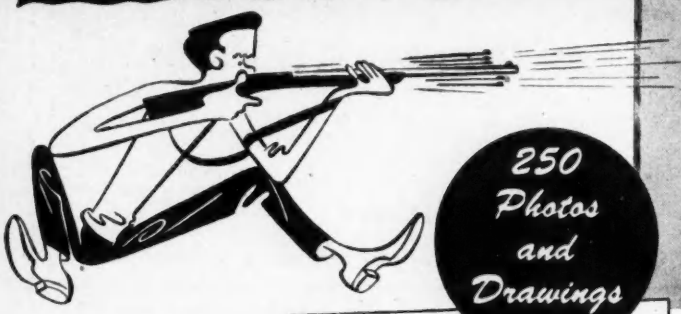

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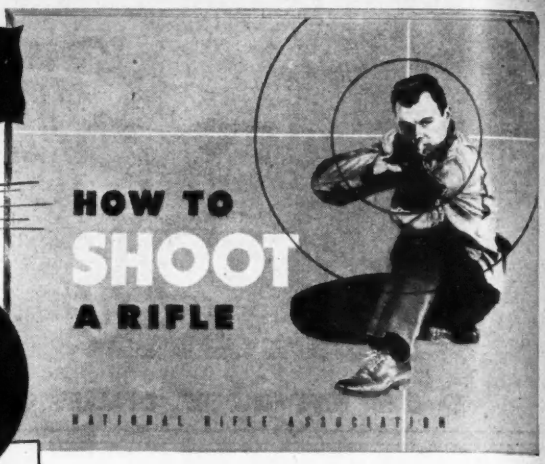

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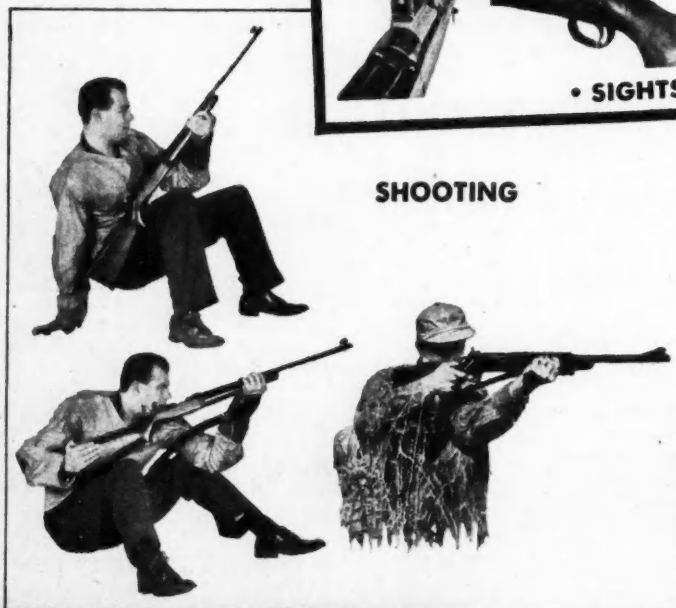

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"BOLT: Action of a typical bolt type rifle. Rearward movement of the *trigger* releases levers which comprise the *sear*. This, in turn, allows the *mainspring* to push the *firing pin* forward with enough force to strike and fire the cartridge in the *chamber*. Mainspring and firing pin are housed in the *bolt* (near top) which slides in the receiver. Large spring (forward) is in the *magazine* which carries additional cartridges and feeds them into firing position."

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1. Rate: 25 cents per word including name and address—minimum charge $3.00. All advertisements must be accompanied by remittance, made payable to "National Rifle Association"—1600 Rhode Island Ave., Washington 6, D. C.

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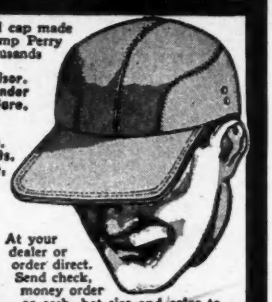

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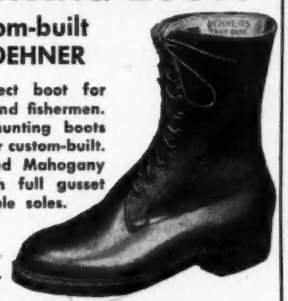

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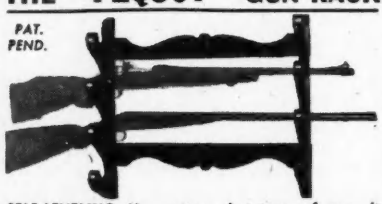

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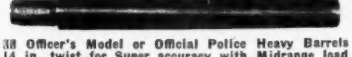

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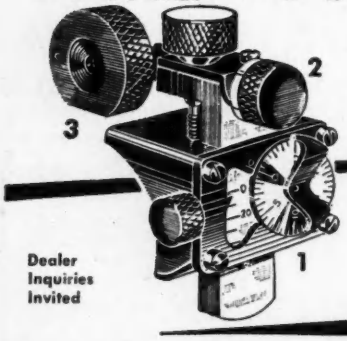

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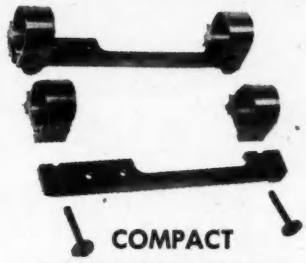

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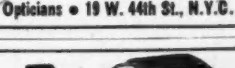

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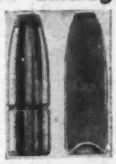

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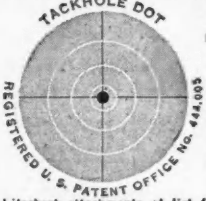

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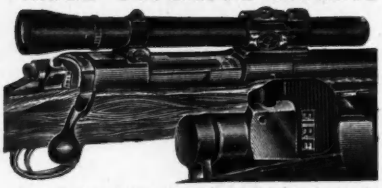

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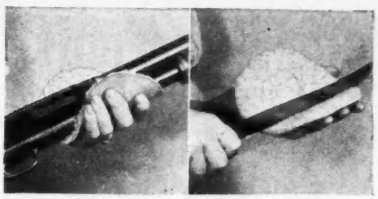

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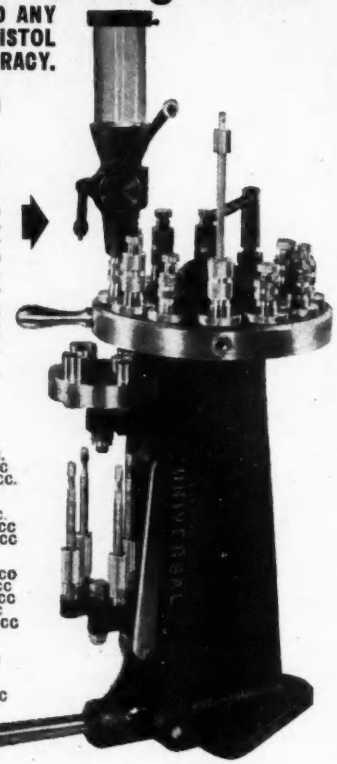

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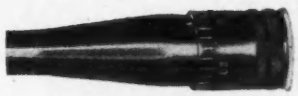
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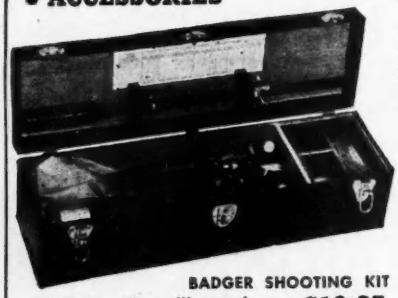

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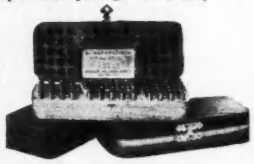

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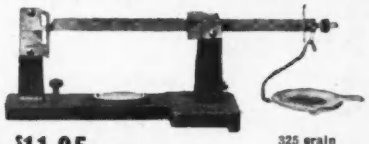

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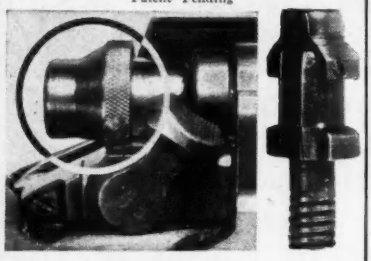

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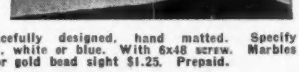

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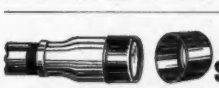

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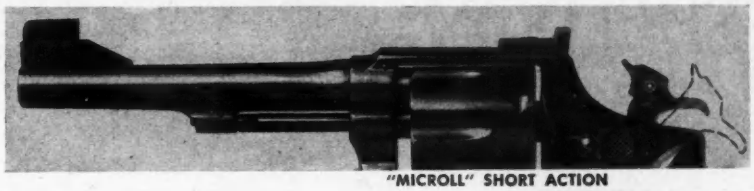

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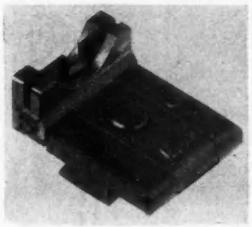

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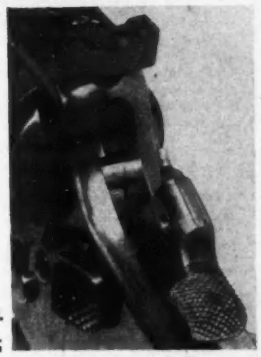

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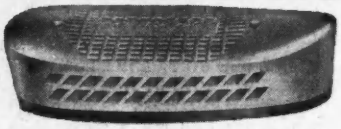

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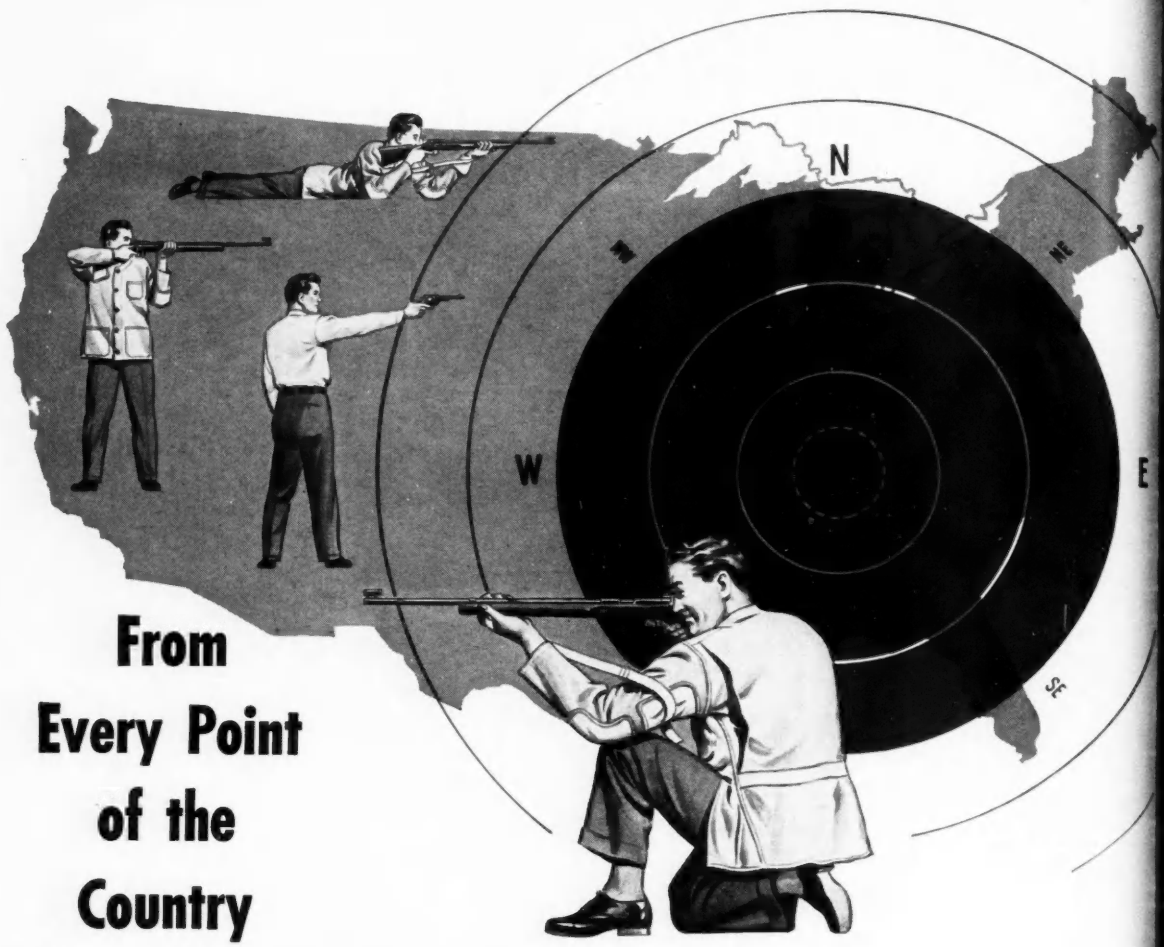

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